



3rd annual

TARIC Family Summit

virtual

Countering Islamophobia

Effective Strategies and Resources

February 18 - 20, 2022



All praise is due to Allaah and we beg him to continue showering His choicest blessings on our beloved Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

Since Family Day was instituted in the Province of Ontario, the TARIC Islamic Centre has observed this holiday with various family activities, including, our famous family day brunch. Pre-pandemic, an in-person family summit weekend became the format for observing Family Day. In 2021 due to the pandemic, the summit was held virtually under the theme, “Resilience of Muslim families in the pandemic era”. This year, the summit is once again virtual and the theme is, “Countering Islamophobia - Effective Strategies and Resources”.

Islamophobia is anti-Muslim sentiment and prejudice. It manifests itself in public and private spaces whereby Muslims are viewed with suspicion and unwelcome. In the workplace, it often takes the form of discrimination where Muslim practices and identity is discouraged and at times prohibited. In traditional and social media and political discourse, we see Muslims portrayed as violent and untrustworthy.

Personally, I have watched with concern the unprecedented rise of anti-Muslim hate crimes and hate speech, but with fewer procedural safeguards and legislation addressing Islamophobia. Muslims have been subjected to discriminatory and unconstitutional practices. Such actions not only infringe on the freedom of Muslims to practice their faith, but also marginalize them as engaged citizens. Islamophobia is more than harsh talk. It is a systemic and institutional form of racism. Islamophobia is the silencing of Muslim voices.



The Messenger of Allaah (peace be upon him) said, “Whoever among you sees evil, let him change it with his hand. If he is unable to do so, then with his tongue. If he is unable to do so, then with his heart, and that is the weakest level of faith.” [Sahih Muslim]

The main aim of tackling this daunting theme during the three days of the upcoming family summit is to openly talk about Islamophobia, deconstruct its narratives, and then reconstruct new positive and realistic narratives around Muslims. Responding to Islamophobia is vital and a moral responsibility. As such, the summit has an exciting program with an array of prominent speakers and presenters that includes policymakers, advocates across religious, racial, and ethnic lines, along with meaningful engagements in interfaith, youth, and the media.

Frankly, organizing a virtual summit of this magnitude has not been a small task. On behalf of the TARIC Islamic Centre, special thanks are extended to many dedicated and outstanding volunteers for their diligent planning, tireless efforts to organize all the sessions, careful scheduling of events, and meticulous work in support of numerous behind the scenes summit activities.

Special thanks are extended to all our generous sponsors and community partners, all the summit’s speakers, and presenters for their contributions, which serve as the foundation of this summit. Lastly, special thanks in advance to all our attendees for making our family summit a part of your Family Day weekend observance.

In conclusion, I pray that the family summit will offer effective strategies and resources, best practices, and relevant toolkits to fight the spread of Islamophobia, in shaa Allaah.

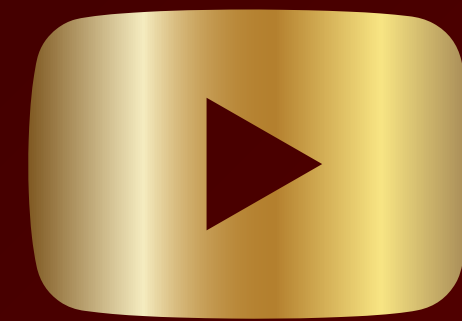
**On behalf of the TARIC Islamic Centre
Imam Shaykh Imran Ally**



Streaming Platforms



ID: 839 4284 8962 | Passcode: tfs2022



TARIC Islamic Centre



TARIC Islamic Center



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Program

Friday, February 18, 2022

12:30 PM EST - Jumu'ah Salah

Islamophobia is a real threat

Khateeb - Imam Shaykh Imran Ally ~ Resident Scholar & Imam - TARIC Islamic Centre



6:30 PM EST

Qur'aan recitation - Qari Mohamed El-Fuqhi - Qur'aan Instructor ~ TARIC Islamic Centre

Land Acknowledgement - Imam Shaykh Imran Ally

Welcome & Opening Remarks - Br. Haroon Salamat ~ Chairman - TARIC Islamic Centre

Message from Minister Marco Mendicino

Message from Premier Doug Ford

Message from Mayor John Tory

Impact of Islamophobia on the Family

Dr. Munir El-Kassem ~ Islamic Centre for Southwest Ontario



7:15 PM EST

Keynote Feature Address

His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali

President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana



8:00 PM EST

Made legal history while standing up to Islamophobia

Moderator - Br. Mark Strong ~ In-Arena Host - Toronto Raptors

Dr. Mohamad Fakh C.M. ~ Entrepreneur & Philanthropist - Paramount Fine Foods

Br. Walied Soliman ~ Chair - Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP

9:00 PM EST - Closing



Saturday, February 19, 2022

1:00 PM EST

Qur'aan recitation - Qari Mohamed El-Fuqhi - Qur'aan Instructor ~ TARIC Islamic Centre

Land Acknowledgement - Br. Sadat Anwar



Understanding and Reporting Hate Crimes

Chief James Ramer ~ Toronto Police Service



2:15 PM EST

What's Next?

Sr. Iqra Khalid MP ~ Mississauga-Erin Mills



2:15 PM EST

Know your rights – Countering Islamophobia from a practical standpoint

Br. Mustafa Farooq ~ CEO - National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM)

3:30 PM - 'ASR SALAH BREAK

4:00 PM EST

A heartbreaking tragedy in London, Ontario

Shaykh Aarij Anwer ~ Director of Religious Affairs - London Muslim Mosque

5:00 PM EST

Islamophobia: Learning from History, what works and what doesn't

Imam Dr. Hamid Slimi ~ Resident Scholar, Imam & Founder - Sayeda Khadija Centre

5:45 PM - MAGHRIB SALAH BREAK



6:30 PM EST

Countering Islamophobia through Civic and Interfaith Engagement

Br. Muneeb Nasir ~ CO-Chair - National Muslim Christian Liaison Committee



7:00 PM EST

Islamophobia affects all; Countering anti-Muslim bigotry & discrimination

Sr. Petra Alsoofy ~ Outreach & Partnerships Manager - ISPU

9:00 PM EST - Closing

Sunday, February 20, 2022

10:00 AM EST

Self-esteem and Islamophobia

Sr. Summayah Poonah ~ Co-Founder - Naseeha | Sr. Aameena Ali ~ Social Worker - YDSB



1:00 PM EST

Qur'aan recitation - Qari Mohamed El-Fuqhi - Qur'aan Instructor ~ TARIC Islamic Centre

Land Acknowledgement - Sr. Alessandra Maqbul

Countering Islamophobia in the Media: Community media practices

Dr. Katherine Bullock ~ Professor - University of Toronto | Host - Muslim Network TV



2:00 PM EST

Sharing Indigenous Philosophies on maintaining cultural & spiritual strengths & building intercultural relationships

Indigenous Elder Cat Criger ~ Traditional Teacher & Knowledge Keeper



2:30 PM EST

Discussion on the legal battle against Quebec's discriminatory Bill 21

Worship Patrick Brown - Mayor of Brampton | Urz Heer ~ Senior Advisor - Mayor's Office (Brampton)



3:30 PM - 'ASR SALAH BREAK



4:00 PM EST

Youth Panel

Embracing Your Islamic Identity as a Canadian Muslim

Ijaabo | Tahirah | Zara | Hassan | Sauleh | Mustafa



5:00 PM EST

Young and Brave: Fighting Hate with Community

Imam Ahmed Deeb ~ Imam & Director of Religious Affairs - Islamic Center of Greater Toledo



5:45 PM - MAGHRIB SALAH BREAK



6:30 PM EST

Updating the progress of the Islamic Credit Union for Community

Br. Ahmed Abdallah ~ Treasurer - TARIC Islamic Centre



6:45 PM EST

Countering Islamophobia through the best practice of community involvement

Shaykh Musleh Khan ~ Resident Teacher & Lecturer - Islamic Institute of Toronto

Br. Mark Strong ~ In-Arena Host - Toronto Raptors



7:45 PM EST

Developing a strategic and sustainable response to Islamophobia – A five-point plan

Imam Shaykh Imran Ally ~ Resident Scholar & Imam - TARIC Islamic Centre



Closing remarks ~ Br. Haroon Salamat | Vote of thanks ~ Br. Dawood Auckbaraullee

Du'a ~ Qari Mohamed El-Fuqhi

8:30 PM EST - Closing





Shaykh Aarij Anwer

Director of Religious Affairs
London Muslim Mosque

Shaykh Aarij Anwer was born in Karachi, Pakistan and grew up in the Greater Toronto Area. He holds a Bachelor of Computer Science (Waterloo), Bachelor of Education (Toronto) and Bachelor of Islamic Sciences in Fiqh and Usulul Fiqh (Al-Madinah International University, Malaysia). He's pursuing Masters in Tafsir from Al-Madinah International University.

Currently, Shaykh Aarij heads Qutoof Academy for advanced Arabic studies, teaches the Steps to Arabic program at AlKauthar Institute and serves as the Director of Religious Affairs and Islamic Education Coordinator for the London Muslim Mosque.

Shaykh Aarij is a published author who published an Arabic curriculum for Islamic schools at Bayyinah Institute and a book on the Prophet's (S) supplications. He is also a Zakat advisor for the National Zakat Foundation, as well as an instructor for AlKauthar Institute. He lives in London with his wife and four daughters.





Imam Ahmed Deeb

Imam and Director of Religious Affairs
Islamic Center of Greater Toledo

Ahmad Deeb began serving communities at a very young age, and grew up in a scholarly family of Syrian immigrants. His father was an Imam

of over 30 years and his grandfather is one of the oldest living scholars of Damascus.

After finishing his bachelors in Psychology at the age of 19, he traveled to Cape Town, SA and completed formal seminary training. He returned to the USA and completed his M.A. at Bayan Islamic Graduate School in Islamic Studies and Leadership while serving as the director of the Islamic Society of Akron and Kent. His thesis topic was “Re-forming Islamic Reform: Ma’loom min al-Dīn bil Darūrah, the Theology of Law, and the Epistemological Limits of Ijtihād.”

He is the co-founder of Itqaan Institute, a premier Qur’an learning institute offering access to the world’s greatest experts, with his father as the main instructor. In his free time, he continues his study of the Islamic tradition under his father Shaykh Abdallah Deeb and other local teachers, as well as through yearly excursions abroad.

He currently serves as the Imam and Director of Religious Affairs at the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo and when able, provides consulting to communities across the country.





Aameena Ali

Social Worker

York Region District School Board

Aameena Ali is a registered Social Worker who graduated from Ryerson University in 2019.

Currently, she works as a School Social Worker at York Region District School Board supporting student mental health and wellbeing. She works from an anti-racist and anti-oppression lens to better serve the diverse community she supports.

Her major interests include examining how systemic racism/discrimination affects how people and communities' access and perceive mental health supports.





Indigenous Elder Cat Criger

Traditional Teacher & Knowledge Keeper

Cat Criger is an Indigenous Elder, Traditional Teacher and Knowledge Keeper. He is of the Cayuga Nation, Turtle Clan, as well as having German and English ancestry. Cat was taught traditional ceremonies, teachings, circles, counselling, healing and plant medicines, Indigenous philosophies and pedagogies by an Anishnawbe Elder and uses these gifts to help all people.

Cat has worked as an Elder and advisor in many Indigenous Agencies, Government Ministries, Non-Profit Organizations and Corporations. He is retired from the University of Toronto, where he last held the position of Indigenous Advisor within the offices of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at the Mississauga Campus. Cat served as part of the chaplaincy for the Pan Am, Para Pan Am and Invictus games in Toronto providing spiritual support and strength to Indigenous and non Indigenous athletes.

Cat continues to work towards providing Indigenous inclusion and support to all students, their teachers and staff at several secondary schools in the Toronto area. He remains active as a guest speaker, lecturer and consultant in curriculum development, cultural competency and Indigenous perspectives of wellness. Cat is part of Peel Police's Indigenous Circle and Chief's Resource Council. Cat is also appointed to the board of directors for Public Health Ontario.





Imam Dr. Hamid Slimi

Chairman & Professor - Canadian Centre for Deen Studies
Resident Scholar, Imam & Founder - Sayeda Khadija Centre
Founder and President of Faith of Life Network

Imam Dr. Hamid Slimi is an Academic Canadian Muslim scholar and a Community Developer. He is:

- (1) The chairman and professor at the Canadian Centre for Deen Studies and a visiting lecturer at different universities and colleges around the world.**
- (2) The Resident Scholar, Imam and Founder of Sayeda Khadija Centre in Mississauga, Ontario since 2009. He has been serving as an Educator, Imam, Chaplain and Counselor in North America for more than 26 years and in Canada since 1997 in different religious and educational institutions.**
- (3) The Founder and President of Faith of Life Network (A Charitable organization focused on providing spiritual and educational programs as well as bridge building with other faiths for peace building and harmony).**

He is also:

- * The President of the Centre For Halal Accreditation, Research & Training**



- * **The head Coach at the International Academy For Human Resource & Community Development**
- * **The Former Chairman of the Canadian Council of Imams (2006-2013)**
- * **Consultant on National and International issues related to religion and spirituality, Islam and Islamic Law, religious dialogue and social issues**
- * **Board member of different Interfaith and Community bodies/groups**
- * **President & CEO of a Management & Marketing solutions business in Ontario.**

From 2009 to 2019, Dr. Hamid Slimi was featured by Georgetown University as one of the 500 Most influential Muslims in the World for his community development and building and his Spiritual Leadership for Muslims and Non-Muslims.

For more details visit www.hamidslimi.com





Haroon Salamat

Chairman
TARIC Islamic Centre

Haroon was born in Trinidad where he graduated from High School in 1954. In 1956 he entered McGill University and graduated in 1959 with a B.Sc degree in Biology and Chemistry.

After teaching for two years at St. Stephen's College in Trinidad he went back to the University of Toronto and graduated in 1965 with a bachelor of applied science (B.A.Sc) in Chemical engineering. He specialized in water treatment and worked with several companies in this field. In 1983 he started his own company Chemitec Inc. promoting online analytical equipment for the field of water treatment.

Haroon with a few other Muslims started the Toronto and Region Islamic Congregation (TARIC) in 1977 and has held the position of Chairman from its inception to today. Through his work in Islamic propagation, Haroon was selected to represent North America on the World Islamic Call Council where he remained a member from 1986 to 2011.

Haroon was also a member of the Libyan based World Islamic Peoples' Leadership traveling around the world promoting Islam and seeking to unify the Muslim ummah. He has been honoured by the Canadian government as well as many organizations for humanitarian work in the community and served until recently on the Board of the Humber River Hospital Foundation as well as on the board of the Career Foundation.





Shaykh Imran Ally

Imam & Resident Scholar

TARIC Islamic Centre

Imran Ally is a graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Islamic Studies and Arabic Language from the World Islamic Call Society University in Tripoli, Libya.

Shaykh Imran Ally is a career employed Imam in Toronto, where he continues to serve as the official resident Imam and Scholar at the TARIC Islamic Centre since 2000. In Canada, such a tenure at one Masjid for more than 2 decades is a rare achievement, thus placing Shaykh Imran in a very small elite group of Imams in the nation.

Shaykh Imran's passion for community engagement extends outside the Masjid and the Muslim community, as a health care chaplain and a law enforcement chaplain with first responders organizations. He is actively involved in interfaith dialogues and he participates in numerous multifaith events.

Shaykh Imran is an Ontario registered marriage officer and a Muslim advisor on regulatory interfaith boards.

Shaykh Imran and his beloved family advocate for relevant services for families and individuals living with disabilities and co-founded Yusuf's Day Of Hope, a fundraiser for the Hospital for Sick Children.





Iqra Khalid

Member of Parliament

Mississauga-Erin Mills

A lawyer, public servant, immigrant, and long-time resident of Erin Mills, Iqra Khalid is here to serve the diverse needs of residents in our riding. Iqra knows that leadership requires understanding, and she works to inspire others to take an active role in building Canada.

Born in Pakistan, Iqra Khalid moved to Canada with her family at a young age and grew up in Erin Mills. She studied criminology at York University and moved on to complete her law degree at the University of Michigan. While attending high school and completing her bachelor's, Iqra made time to work and support her family's small business. Completing her law degree at the University of Michigan, Iqra returned home to Mississauga where she went on to work for the City of Mississauga's legal department and continue serving her community.

Before entering politics, Iqra was actively engaged in the issues facing Canada and peoples around the world. Whether she was raising funds for global disaster relief or building bridges between student groups at York university, helping at her parents' small business after school or working at an immigration firm, Iqra is engaged in the diverse experiences of Mississauga residents. Believing in the potential of Mississauga-Erin Mills, Iqra took her first steps into politics and ran for office in 2015.



Iqra has served as Member of Parliament for Mississauga-Erin Mills since 2015. She is a strong advocate for women's issues and a steadfast ally in the cause of human rights, speaking out on issues such as human trafficking, online hate, and the Rohingya Genocide. Iqra gives a voice to the people of Mississauga-Erin Mills in her roles as a member of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Human Rights, as Chair of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights, and as Chair of the Women's Caucus.

Iqra knows that effective leadership requires understanding the needs of her constituents. That is why Iqra is actively engaged with the ideas and concerns facing the residents of Mississauga-Erin Mills. She hosts regular town halls and seminars to take feedback from her constituents and to keep them informed on the policies and programs that affect them. Iqra is proud to have created the Erin Mills Women's Council, the first of its kind, to advise her on the issues facing women in her riding





Chief James Ramer

Toronto Police Service

James Ramer has been a member of the Toronto Police Service since 1980. He was appointed as Chief of Police in August 2020.

Prior to being appointed to his current position, Chief Ramer was the Deputy Chief of Specialized Operations Command (SOC); overseeing 1,200 police officers, 160 civilian members, and managing a budget of \$240M. SOC is comprised of the Service's various investigative squads and a variety of specialized uniform units. As Staff Superintendent of Detective Operations, he was responsible for such specialized units as Homicide, Hold Up, Sex Crimes, and Financial Crimes. He was also the Unit Commander at 22 Division, the Community Mobilization Unit, Professional Standards, the Emergency Task Force, and Intelligence Services.

He holds memberships with the International Chiefs of Police (IACP), the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACCP) and the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP). He sits on sub-committees for the CACCP and OACP that pertain to counter terrorism, national security issues, and organized crime. Chief Ramer is also a member of the Executive Body for the Criminal Intelligence Service of Ontario and the National Executive Committee (NEC).



Chief Ramer has completed the Leadership in Counter Terrorism Program (LinCT), Senior Police Management (Boston College), and National Securities Studies (Canadian Forces Staff College). He has also completed the National Incident Commanders Course (NICWGA), the Senior Police Administration course, and is a certified Incident Commander.

He is a Board Member with the LinCT Executive and with Covenant House. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and History, together with post-graduate studies in Industrial Relations and Ontario History, from the University of Toronto.

In 2010, he was awarded the 30 year Police Exemplary Service Medal, in 2012 was a recipient of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, and in 2019, was appointed Member of the Order of Merit (M.O.M.) of the Police Forces.





Dr. Katherine Bullock

TV Host & Director of Special Programs - Muslim Network TV

President - Compass Books

Professor - Department of Political Science, U of T

Katherine Bullock is a TV host for Sound Vision's Muslim Network TV and Director of Special Programs.

She teaches Islamic politics in the Department of Political Science, University of Toronto at Mississauga. And she is President of Compass Books, dedicated to publishing top-quality books about Islam and Muslims in English.

Her own books include: Muslim Women Activists in North America: Speaking for Ourselves, and Rethinking Muslim Women and the Veil: Challenging Historical and Modern Stereotypes which has been translated into Arabic, French, Malayalam, and Turkish. Her latest research was published by the Yaqeen Institute and is a study of zakat in Canada.

Originally from Australia, she lives in Oakville, Canada, with her husband and children. She embraced Islam in 1994.





Mark Strong

In-Arena Host - Toronto Raptors

National Ambassador - Penny Appeal Canada

Mark Strong has hosted commercial Morning Shows in Toronto from 2000-2022. From Flow 93.5FM, to G987FM and currently 1065 Elmnt FM, Mark Strong has reached audiences across the GTA for over two decades.

His high profile appearances and voice over positions include hosting as an Ambassador of the PanAm and Para Pan American games. A 14 year stint as the live voice of The Juno Awards, Canada's premiere music awards program. In addition, Canada's Walk of Fame (2007-2015) voice of CSA (Canadian Screen Actors) Awards (2018).

His natural transition to television landed him the position as host of NBAXL in 2010. NBAXL is a National NBA basketball/magazine show broadcasting across Canada and exposed Mark's energy from coast to coast to coast by interviewing players through a basketball cultural perspective. Mark's latest progression in the field has found him in the driver's seat at the Toronto Raptors home games as in-stadium host and hype man, a position he has held for the last 11 years.

Also known as "Strizzzy", he has also completed his first Tedx Talk in Toronto to add to his growing online presence. His newest venture brings him back to serving communities both cross Canada and Internationally as the Community Engagement. Ambassador for relief and development charity organization Penny Appeal Canada. A Strong social media presence





Dr. Mohamad Fakih

Entrepreneur and Philanthropist
Paramount Fine Foods

In 2006, Mohamad Fakih, Entrepreneur and Philanthropist, purchased a nearly bankrupt restaurant and transformed it into what is known as the fastest growing Middle Eastern Halal restaurant chain in North America – Paramount Fine Foods. Mohamad's determination to change perceptions surrounding Middle Eastern food has driven Paramount's brand success across Canada and Internationally as well as advancing the global Middle Eastern food trend.

A community leader, Fakih regularly participates in fundraisers and community events, supporting multiple causes and organizations. His determination to uphold values of giving back to communities where Paramount restaurants are located has resulted in a workplace culture of giving to others and to supporting one another.

In the last 2 years, Dr. Fakih has received numerous awards for his business excellence and for his charitable works including a few mentioned below:

- **University of West Indies, Raymond Chang Award 2019 – Given to individuals who exemplify leadership and philanthropy in commitment to betterment of communities in Canada.**



- **VOSCARS, Hazel McCallion Power of Giving Award, 2019 – Given to individuals with generosity and determination who has made a variety of contributions to the community.**
- **Ontario Supreme Court – Dr. Fakhri awarded \$2.5 million dollars against Kevin J. Johnston in defamation court case**
- **Businessperson of the Year Award, 2019 – Won the prestigious Business Award of Excellence 2019, by the Mississauga Board of Trade.**
- **Key to the City of Mississauga, 2019 - Awarded the key to the city of Mississauga by Mayor Bonnie Crombie, bestowed upon esteemed community members, former residents and visitors whom the Mayor wishes to honour.**
- **Canada's Most Admired CEO 2019, Mid-market category – Recognized as a national winner for fostering high performance corporate cultures that help sustain a competitive advantage.**
- **Corporate Citizen of the year 2021**
- **2021 – Order of Canada**





His Excellency

Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali

President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana
Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces

His Excellency, Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali, was sworn in as Guyana's Ninth Executive President on August 2, 2020.

Dr Ali is one of two sons of his parents, who are both educators. He was born on April 25, 1980, into a Muslim, Indo-Guyanese family at Leonora, West Coast Demarara, His early education started at Leonora Nursery and Primary schools and progressed to the Cornelia Ida Primary School, while he completed his secondary education at the St Stanislaus College in Georgetown.

Dr Ali is the holder of a Doctorate in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of the West Indies, a Master of Arts Degree in Manpower Planning, a Post Graduate Diploma in International Business, a Post- Graduate Certificate in Finance from Anglia Ruskin University, an LLM Degree in International Commercial Law at the University of Salford and a Bachelor of Arts Degree (Hons.) in Business Management from the University of Sunderland.



He was also a member of the Canadian Institute of Management (up to 2017) and Project Management Professional-PMP (2006). He previously served as Project Manager of the Caribbean Development Bank's Project Implementation Unit in the Ministry of Finance and Senior Planner in the State Planning Secretariat. He became a member of the National Assembly of Guyana in 2006 and was subsequently appointed to the portfolios of Minister of Housing and Water and Minister of Tourism Industry and Commerce. During his time at the Ministry of Housing, he implemented the most extensive endowment campaign in the history of the country, backed by a massive distribution of lots to citizens of all social strata and geographic regions.

In the National Assembly, Dr Ali was also a leading spokesperson on the economy and finance. He served as chair of one of the most important committees, the Public Accounts Committee, and co-chair of the Economic Services Committee of the Parliament of Guyana. Dr Ali is married and is a father.





Qari Mohamed El-Fuqhi

Qur'aan Instructor

TARIC Islamic Centre

Qari Mohamed El-Fuqhi was born in Libya and received his early education at the Jamal AbdulNaser school in Tripoli. He graduated from the University of Portsmouth in England with a Bachelor degree in Electronic Engineering and received his Ijazah in The Memorization and Recitation of Qur'aan from the Awqaf Ministry in Libya.

After completing his studies, Qari Mohamed started his own business and co-founded the first delivery app in Libya. He also participated in several tech and business conventions. He is a reciter of international repute and has been leading taraweeh salaah at TARIC since 2009. He is currently the resident Qur'aan instructor for all ages at TARIC and the Islamic Studies instructor for teens and young adults at TARIC Islamic Sunday School.

Qari Mohamed is also a co-founder and CTO of the Libyan Community in Canada Organisation (LCC) which provides support for new immigrants from Libya. With his fondness for technology he maintains the IT infrastructure and conducts the live stream events at TARIC.

During his spare time Qari Mohamed enjoys swimming, hiking and being up to date with the latest tech.





Muneeb Nasir

Founder & Chair - Olive Tree Foundation

Co-Chair - National Muslim Christian Liaison Committee

Executive Director - Cordoba Centre for Civic Engagement & Leadership

Muneeb Nasir Is a Muslim faith leader, writer, and interfaith activist who is respected for his knowledge and involvement in religious and current affairs. He is a founder and Chair of the public endowment, Olive Tree Foundation, and Co-Chair of the interfaith organization, National Muslim Christian Liaison Committee.

Muneeb is also the Executive Director of the Cordoba Centre for Civic Engagement and Leadership, a collective that promotes service, dialogue and understanding among peoples of various cultures and faiths; and he is the Managing Editor of the online Canadian Muslim Journal, IQRA.ca. Muneeb is a visiting Imam at the downtown Toronto Mosque and with the University of Toronto's Muslim Students Association where he delivers the Friday sermon, conducts the prayer services and offers educational programs. He is a frequent guest speaker at institutions where he promotes greater inter-community and interfaith understanding and active citizenship.



Over the years, he has been a founding board member of a number of charities including the Islamic Institute of Toronto, Masjid Toronto, and the Muslim Chaplaincy of Toronto; and he has served on boards and advisory committees including on the Steering Committee of the Parliament of the World's Religions, on the Muslim Advisory Board, at University of Toronto's Emmanuel College and on the Scarborough Hospital Advisory Council.

Educated at the University of Toronto and University of Guelph, Muneeb also holds Professional Certification in Not-for-Profit Management and in Interfaith Understanding.





Dr. Munir El-Kassem

Islamic Centre of Southwest Ontario

Dr. Munir El-Kassem received his early foundational Islamic knowledge at the Maqasid Islamic Institute in his hometown of Beirut. He pursued his academic studies which led him to Canada where he graduated as a Dental Surgeon and lecturer at the University of Western Ontario (UWO).

Since his arrival in Canada Dr. El-Kassem has dedicated his life in service to the Muslim community. He is one of the most senior Imam's in Canada that has been instrumental in the progress and growth of the TARIC community. He is a regular Friday Khatib at TARIC and many other communities. Dr. El-Kassem has traveled extensively across the world to share his knowledge and expertise on the challenges facing Muslims, delivering lectures, seminars, workshops, and counselling.

Dr. El-Kassem has authored and produced several books and video productions on a wide array of subjects. His most recent publication is a guide for planning and preparing thoughtful and effective Khutbah based on his life-long experience as a public speaker. He has visited a large number of Muslim communities across Canada, the United States and the



Caribbean where he is recognized as a passionate speaker, effective fund raiser and community development councillor. He has also participated in interfaith dialogues throughout the world.

Dr. El-Kassem is the recipient of the Golden Jubilee Award, Diamond Jubilee Award, and the Outstanding Achievement Award for Volunteerism in Ontario. Dr. El-Kassem is married and blessed with five daughters and one son.





Shaykh Musleh Khan

Resident Teacher & Lecturer - The Islamic Institute of Toronto
Chaplain - Toronto Police Service
Outreach Manager - Penny Appeal Canada

Shaykh Musleh Khan is currently a resident teacher and lecturer at The Islamic Institute of Toronto.

He is a Chaplain with The Toronto Police Service and the Outreach Manager for Penny Appeal Canada. He spends most of his time traveling across the city, conducting lectures, and courses on Quran Tafseer and Hadith Terminology.

When Shakyh Musleh is not busy, he enjoys outdoor activities and spending time with his family.





Mustafa Farooq

Chief Executive Officer

National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM)

Mustafa Farooq is the Chief Executive Officer of the National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM). A lawyer by profession, Mustafa completed his Juris Doctor at the University of Alberta and Osgoode Hall (York University) and later earned his Master of Laws (LLM) at UC Berkeley in California.

He previously served as a senior political staffer to a provincial cabinet minister in which role he worked on various legislative and policy initiatives.

Mustafa was also a visiting scholar at Osgoode Hall Law School researching countering violent extremism policy in Canada. His book entitled Law, Politics, and Countering Violent Extremism (Routledge) is forthcoming.

He is a published writer and commentator in various news media and publications on issues related to Canadian Muslims, human rights & civil liberties, and public policy issues including Islamophobia and national security.





His Worship

Patrick Brown

Mayor of Brampton

Patrick Brown was elected Mayor of Brampton in October 2018 on a platform of getting Brampton back on track and receiving a fair deal from our provincial and federal governments.

Patrick was born in Toronto in 1978 of Irish and Italian descent. He graduated from St. Michael's College, then studied political science at the University of Toronto and graduated with a law degree from the University of Windsor. He began his law practice in Brampton where his father Edmond has practiced for more than 40 years. Patrick's mother Judy is a retired high school principal.

Patrick has had a long involvement in serving in government. He was first elected in 2000 as a Councillor in the City of Barrie. He served two terms on City Council before getting elected as the Member of Parliament. He was re-elected in 2008 by a landslide and 2011 by the largest margin in City of Barrie history. From 2006-2014 Patrick was the Chair of the Canada-India Parliamentary Association and he also served as Chair of the GTA Caucus from 2011-15.



In May 2015 Patrick was elected Leader of the Ontario PC Party. He became the Member of Provincial Parliament in September 2015 for the riding of Simcoe North. He served as Leader of the Official Opposition and Education Critic. Patrick's focus in the provincial parliament was controlling sky rocketing hydro rates, enhancing mental health services, ending cash for access political donations and ensuring proper funding for autism support.

As Mayor of Brampton, Patrick is focused on creating the economic climate for new investment and jobs. Mayor Brown has added 86 new police officers to the Peel Regional Police as part of his plan to keep Brampton safe. Patrick will continue to fight for more funding for better healthcare, transit, affordable housing and education. With a very fast-growing youth and senior population, Patrick wants to expand the recreation facilities and programs so Bramptonians remain active. Mayor Brown and Council have passed two consecutive budgets with municipal tax freezes.

Patrick was recognized in 2013 with the Canadian Human Rights Voice Award for his role in exposing Tamil genocide. He was the first MP to talk about the Tamil genocide in the House of Commons.

Patrick organized Hockey Night in Barrie and since its inception 11 years ago, the game has raised more than \$2 million for local charitable organizations. He has now started Hockey Night in Brampton to raise funds for the William Osler Health System Foundation. The first year raised an incredible \$411,000.

Patrick and his wife Genevieve live in Downtown Brampton with their son Theodore. Patrick is also a best-selling author of the book *Takedown: The Attempted Political Assassination of Patrick Brown* released in November 2018.





Petra Alsoofy

Outreach & Partnerships Manager

Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU)

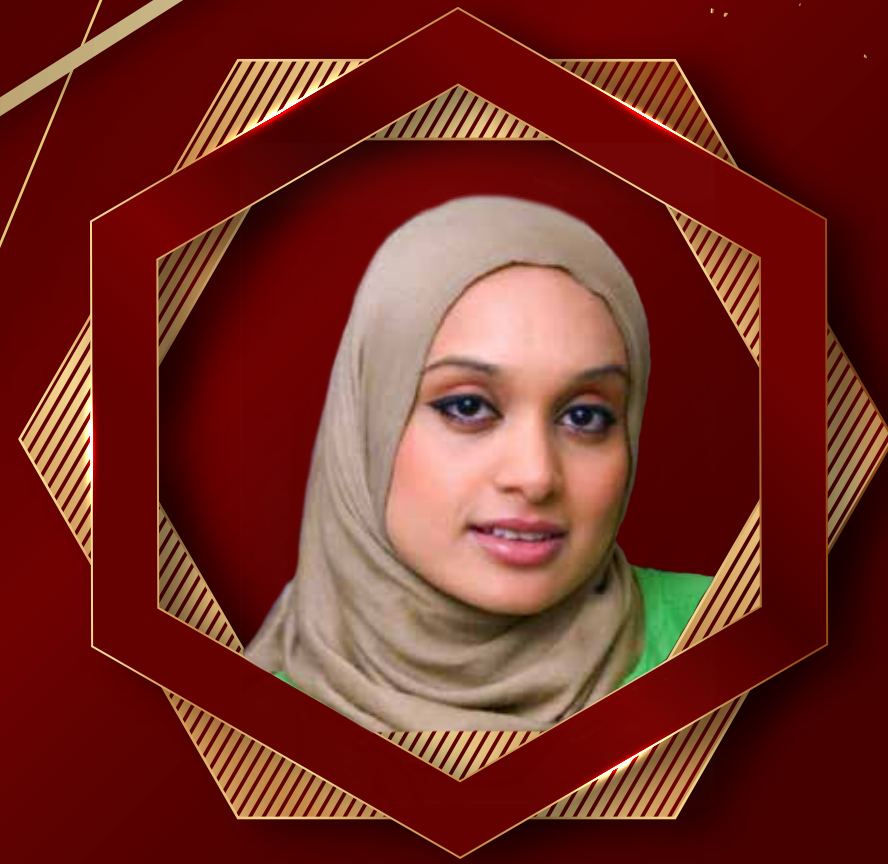
Petra Alsoofy is the Outreach & Partnerships Manager at the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU), where she strengthens valued partnerships and forges new ones with organizations who share ISPU's goal of strengthening Muslim communities and building understanding.

Petra's work includes working with ISPU's large network of scholars and sharing research with policymakers, community leaders, faith leaders, educators, and the general public to equip them to make informed decisions about American Muslims.

Petra is a Detroit Equity Action Lab (DEAL) Racial Equity Fellow and an alum of New Detroit's Multicultural Leadership Series. She also serves as the vice president of the Michigan Center for Civic Engagement's Board of Directors and as a member of the American Association for State and Local History's Religious History Committee.

Petra has been a leader in interfaith work and public education for more than 15 years and is a graduate of Grand Valley State University where she earned a BA in political science.





Summayah Poonah

Head of Operations
Naseeha Mental Health

Summayah Poonah is a founding member of Naseeha Mental Health, a non-profit charity dedicated to supporting communities and individuals in their journey towards positive mental health and wellbeing.

As an experienced activist and mentor, Summayah has supported multiple charities in cross-cultural training and adapting programs to a racially-informed approach.

After working in the corporate sector, Summayah turned her attention to the dire need for a confidential and non-judgmental helpline platform and social justice programs customized to the needs of marginalized groups that empower those accessing services to bridge gaps that exist between the mainstream sector and the underrepresented.

Summayah is currently the Head of Operations for the Naseeha's Muslim Youth Helpline.





Urz Heer

Senior Advisor - Stakeholder & Government Relations
Mayor's Office - City of Brampton

Urz Heer is a dynamic change maker, an inspiration, and an energetic community leader in the areas of community safety during Covid19, interfaith work, representing women at the United Nations as President of Zonta and on issues of Islamophobia and Bill 21.

Her charisma and dynamic leadership skills working in the Brampton Mayor's Office have brought about positive change for the Muslim community locally and across Canada particularly around representation for Muslims locally and across the country.





Waled Soliman

Chair

Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP

Waled Soliman is the Canadian chair of Norton Rose Fulbright and co-chair of the Special Situations team.

He is widely regarded as one of Canada's leading lawyers in his field, having been involved

in some of the most significant and complex M&A transactions and proxy battles in the country, advising buyers and sellers, boards, hostile bidders and shareholder activists.

In addition, his practice focuses on restructurings, corporate finance, governance and structured products. Mr. Soliman was mandated in 2020 by the government of Ontario to chair the Capital Markets Modernization Taskforce.

In 2019, Mr. Soliman was chosen by the United Nations Association in Canada to be its Global Citizen Laureate for his professional merit and service to the community. He was the only lawyer featured in The Globe and Mail's Report on Business Magazine Power 50 list in 2017, was designated as a "Star Lawyer" by Acritas for ranking in the top 28 lawyers globally, and he has been continuously recognized by the most prestigious legal rankings over the years, including Chambers & Partners and Legal 500.

Mr. Soliman sits on the boards of the BlackNorth Initiative against anti-Black racism, Ryerson University, and the Toronto SickKids Hospital Foundation.



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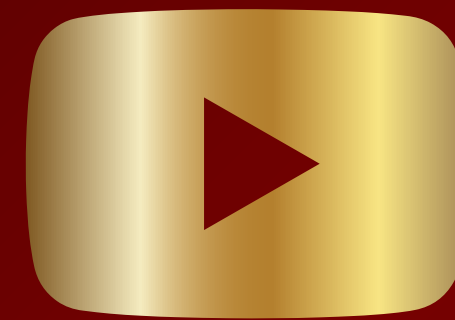
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