

## Kanata Muslim Association

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## GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS

### Introduction

Kanata is a western suburb of Ottawa (Capital of Canada) and houses most of the high tech industry of Canada. Due to this characteristic, Kanata is sometimes also known as Silicon Valley North.

Muslim population of Kanata has been steadily growing since its inception about 30 years ago as Muslim professionals were being employed in the high tech industry in significant numbers. At the present time it is estimated that the Muslim population in Kanata is well over 5000. There are over 30 Mosques, Musallahs, and Islamic Schools etc. serving approximately 60,000 Muslims in Greater Ottawa Area. However, **there is no properly built mosque serving the Muslim community in Kanata.** The closest mosque for the residents of North Kanata is at least 20 minutes away.

The **Kanata Muslim Association (KMA)** was established in 2003 to cater to religious, social, cultural and educational needs of Kanata Muslims. It has been registered as a non profit corporation of Ontario **Corporation Number 1622968**, and affiliated with the Islamic Society of North America – Canada (ISNA Canada). Since the time of its inception, KMA has been actively involved in carrying out various Islamic activities in different locations of Kanata: Daily prayers, including Taraveeh in Ramadan, in the basement of a Muslim residence, Friday Prayers and regular social gatherings in various rental facilities in Kanata. A brief description of KMA objectives are:

- a) Establishment of an Islamic Center
- b) Establishment of educational institutions such as schools (evenings and full time).
- c) Continuing education of adults, youth, children, through Conferences, workshops and seminars etc.
- d) Establishment of various community development programs

### Islamic Center Of Kanata

There is a strong need to establish an Islamic Center in Kanata. This Center will cater to the needs of the Muslim communities in Kanata, Stitsville, and Carp etc. It will also serve as a regional center for western suburbs of Ottawa providing a focal point for carrying out and coordinating various Islamic activities in Greater Ottawa Area.

An Islamic Centre, which includes Mosque, School and Community Hall, forms a multi-purpose institution serving the religious, social, cultural, educational and political needs of a Muslim Community at the grass roots level. As a divine and democratic institution, it has no parallel, either in the past or the contemporary philosophies. Clean in its environment, corporate in its character, constructive in its approach and creative in its essence, the Islamic Centre institution is an outstanding contribution of Islam to human society.

### Community Development

The Islamic Centre of Kanata will be a nucleus of the Muslim Community Development initiative, which is a multi year, multi phase strategic plan. It will be implemented in incremental phases as the community needs grow, while providing Halal investment opportunities. The current concept of implementation phases includes:

**Phase I:** A Community Center comprising facilities for youth activities, a few Class Rooms a small Prayer Hall, and a small Community hall.

**Phase II:** Insha'Allah **Islamic Center of Kanata** will be built within Kanata preferably in close proximity to the Community Center above with proper **Islamic architecture** (Dome and Minaret).

### Site selection and House Acquisition

After careful site selection studies over a period of six years, a house located on 1.26 acre land with the municipal address **11 Campbell Reid Court** was selected to implement Phase I activities. The vision for Phase II is to purchase at least 10 acres land in close proximity to this house.

### Rationale for House Acquisition

This house fulfils the first phase of community development requirements enunciated above and is located very close to the March Road, which contains most of the high tech industry. **The access from Morgan's Grant, Shirley's Brook and High Tech Industry is only 5 minutes away. Kanata Lakes, Stitsville and other parts of Kanata are within 15 minutes.**

### Phase I Project

The house will be purchased by 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009. The present zoning of this house is rural residential. Soon after the purchase the zoning amendment application will be made to the City of Ottawa.

### Phase II Project Vision

Additional land will be purchased within the close proximity of Phase I Project whenever it becomes available. **The Islamic Centre of Kanata will be built on this land, which Insha'Allah will be a historical landmark for the city of Kanata.**

### Fundraising

KMA will be responsible for the house purchase by soliciting charitable donations from local, regional, national and International levels. A Fundraising Dinner is being planned for the first week of June 2009.

### Planned Activities

Insha'Allah, soon after the closing, temporary facilities are being planned for:

- ♦ Children's Education
- ♦ Youth Activities
- ♦ Small Social Gatherings
- ♦ Daily Prayers
- ♦ Weekly Halaqa's
- ♦ Interfaith dialogues
- ♦ Outreach to community at large

### Financial Status – Phase I Project

House Price	\$300,000
Estimated Fees and taxes	\$10,000
Estimated Costs	\$310,000
Cash at Hand	\$60,000
Donations Required	\$250,000

Please donate generously by making cheques payable to Kanata Muslim Association. (KMA).

You can also donate via the KMA's website: [www.kanatamuslims.org](http://www.kanatamuslims.org)

*A tax deductible receipt will be provided*

### KMA Board – 2008 To 2010 Term

#### Board of Directors

<b>President:</b>	<b>Ahmed Muneeruddin</b>
<b>Director Mosque:</b>	<b>Mohammed Hachemi Bensaci</b>
<b>Director Islamic School:</b>	<b>Nacer Abdelauoi</b>
<b>Director Administration:</b>	<b>Dr. Jashimuddin Ahmed</b>
<b>Director Regional Co-ordination:</b>	<b>Dr. Djaffer Baddou</b>
<b>Director Projects and Programs:</b>	<b>Rizwan Ur Rehman</b>
<b>Director Finance:</b>	<b>Tanvir Alam</b>

*By contributing to this project you are helping to:*

- *Save our future generations*
- *Preserve the Islamic identity*
- *Promote Islamic Dawah*

**Allah Almighty says in the holy Quran: "Whatever you may contribute for the cause of Allah, it shall be repaid to you in full" (Al-Quran 8:60)**