

# Introduction to Local Muslim Community

Rotary Club — St. Thomas

December 1, 2021

### What is Islam?

Islam = Submission

Muslim = one who submits [to God]

Salam = Peace

"Who is more beautiful in speech than one who calls unto God, works righteousness, and says, "Truly, I am among those who submit"? (I am of the Muslims) [Qur'an 41:33]

Muslim greeting: Assalamu Alaikum Peace be with you

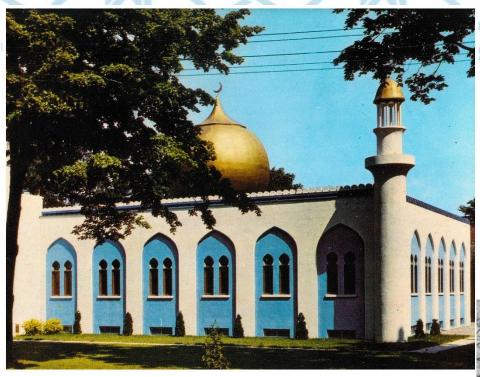
### Islam in Canada



### A NEW LIFE IN A NEW LAND: THE MUSLIM EXPERIENCE IN CANADA

- <a href="http://www.anewlife.ca">http://www.anewlife.ca</a>
- 1991: 253,265
- 2001: 579,640 (129% increase)
- 2011: 1,053,945 (over 90% increase)
- 2019: 1,499660 1,687,118 (based on projected 4.0-4.5% +)
- 2036: 2,520,000 3,240,000 (based on 5.6-7.2% + @ 45,000,000)

### Islam in London, ON



London Muslim Mosque, 1964

London Muslim Mosque, today



## Muslims in Canada ISLAMIC HERITAGE MONTH 2017





REFLECT. CELEBRATE. LEARN.



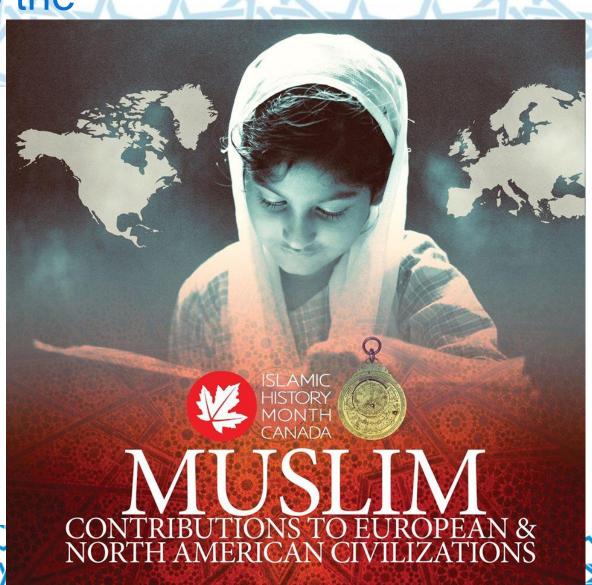






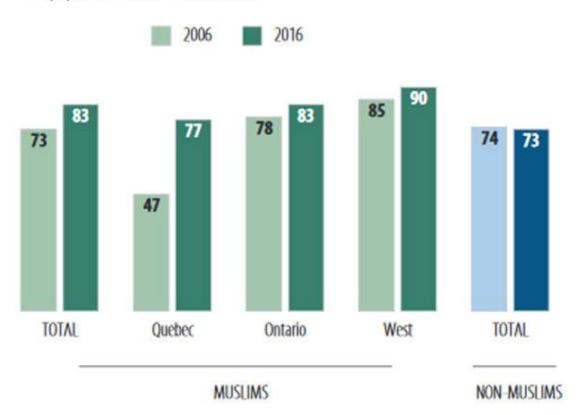
Muslim
Contributions to the
World

Muslims have made
many contributions to
Western civilization in
various fields, including
education, medicine,
physics, biology,
chemistry, law,
engineering among
others.



#### Canadian Muslims

Very proud to be Canadian



Survey of
Muslims in
Canada 2016,
Final Report,

Source:

Environics
Institute

Q.3/FC Q.3
Would you say you are very, somewhat, not very, or not at all proud to be a
Canadian?

## Education on Islam: Dealing with Misconceptions

- What is Shari'ah?
- "In Arabic, Shar'iah means the clear, well-trodden path to water. Islamically, it is used to refer to the matters of religion that God has legislated for His servants. The linguistic meaning of Shariah reverberates in its technical usage: just as water is vital to human life so the clarity and uprightness of Shariah is the means of life for souls and minds."
  - Shaykh Faraz Rabbani, What is the Shariah? A Path to God, a Path to Good www.seekershub.org

# Education on Islam: Understanding True

### Impact of Islamophobia June 6, 2021

- Created sense of fear
  - Visibly Muslim
  - More hate spread from small minority of population (ex. Harriston resident)
- Increase in mental health issues



### How Do We Respond?

Interact

**Educate** 

**Mercy/Compassion** 

Be engaged

Reach out

Advocate

**Empathy** 

**Collaborate** 

"There is **only one**way that we can combat
and overcome the
various forms of hatred
that exist within our
society—TOGETHER."

(-adapted from Shahina Siddiqui ISSA, Winnipeg, MB)

### Spirit of Islam



"We have sent you only as a mercy to the whole world"

Qur'an 21:107

### Thank you for listening!

