



Islamophobia & Racism

Recommendations for a municipal
action plan



Coalition of
Muslim Women
Kitchener-Waterloo

Why we are here:

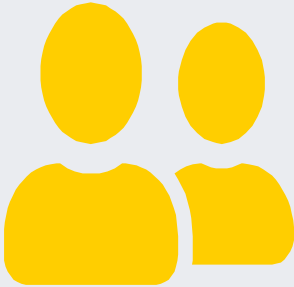
Lest we forget

The Islamophobic massacre of the Afzal family who were out on a summer walk around their neighborhood



Islamophobia & Racism manifest at:

Individual level



Systemic Level



Structural Level



National Summit on Islamophobia: July 2021

- Government of Canada committed to engage with Muslim communities on the next Anti-Racism Action Plan
- A renewed focus on dedicated resources to support the work within government to combat islamophobia and all forms of hate
- Take a whole-of-government approach by working with departments across the government to take further action on these priorities.

Community sourced recommendation lists:



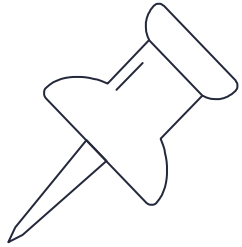
- Coalition of Muslim Women of KW <https://bit.ly/2VClitn>
- Canadian Council of Muslim Women: <https://bit.ly/3Ad1z2C>
- National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM) <https://bit.ly/3huJBCa>
- Muslim Association of Canada <https://bit.ly/HPU3z>
- International Civil Liberties Group <https://bit.ly/3zhFz6x>

CMW's recommendations for Municipalities

- Pass street harassment bylaws – proportional & constitutional
- Neighbour harassment bylaws – proportional & constitutional
- Invest in reporting and documentation of hate
- Dedicated funding to address Islamophobia
- Neighbourhood programming

CMW's recommendations for Municipalities

- Develop leadership training programs for young Muslim women
- Specific funding for anti-Islamophobia awareness campaigns
- **Invest in celebrating Islamic History Month & Muslim voices/ narratives**



October is Islamic Heritage/ History Month

CMW invites all to the many community
events organized in October

What is Islamic History/ Heritage Month?

- A time for everyone to learn about Muslim culture , their significant contributions to Canadian society and their long history in this country
- 2007, the Parliament of Canada proclaimed October Canadian Islamic History Month
- In 2016 Ontario declared October as Islamic Heritage Month
- A step toward eliminating Islamophobia; to celebrate and learn about authentic Muslim narratives based on lived experiences

Event Calendar

Special thanks to
our partners:
KPL, WPL,
Schneider Haus

October 6

WEDNESDAY
7:00pm - 8:00pm
(Virtual Event)



Waterloo Public Library:

Author Meet with best selling writer **Uzma Jalaludin**

Register here for the Zoom link: <https://calendar.wpl.ca/event/5503516>

October 8

ONWARDS
Schneider Haus: Full day



Schneider Haus Museum:

UN/COVERINGS - Mennonite & Muslim Women's Heads and Hearts
(Photo exhibition)

Venue: Schneider Haus Museum (in- person)

October 15

FRIDAY
3:30pm - 5:00pm



Kitchener Public Library:

Islamic Calligraphy Demo with artist **Ati Zar**

Venue: Central Library Lounge (in- person)

October 22

FRIDAY
12:00pm - 1:00pm
(Virtual Event)



Waterloo Public Library Lunch-and-Learn:

History of Muslims in Canada with historian **Hassam Munir**

Register here for the Zoom link: <https://calendar.wpl.ca/event/5503293>

October 23

SATURDAY
10:00am - 10:30am
(Virtual Event)



Kitchener Public Library: Family Storytime : **Muslim stories**

Register here for the Zoom link:

<https://kplca.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=48095&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2021/10/01>

October 28

THURSDAY
1:00pm - 2:00pm
(Virtual Event)



Kitchener Public Library Lunch-and-Learn: 'Power Without Responsibility:

How Islam and Muslims are represented in media' with journalist **Shenaz Kermalli**

Register here for the Zoom link:

<https://kplca.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=48085&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2021/10/01>

CMW invites you to celebrate Islamic History Month



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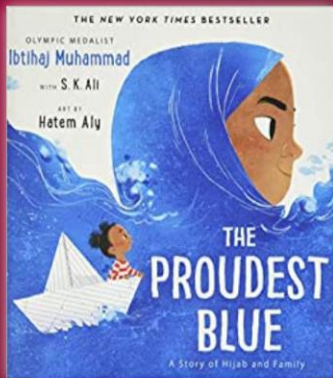
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SHENAZ KERMALLI

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What we do: CMW

Countering Islamophobia, Racism,
Xenophobia



Coalition of
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Working for safer, inclusive communities through B.A.T.E.S.

- Bridge Building
- Advocacy
- Trainings
- Education & Awareness
- Services for Community



1. Bridge Building

- ❑ **Tea and Tales**
- ❑ **BRAVE CIRCLES**
- ❑ Muslimah Stories Project
- ❑ Give 30 Campaign in Ramadan
- ❑ Eid and Ramadan programming with KPL & WPL
- ❑ Programming for Islamic Heritage Month
- ❑ Exhibition of Islamic Art with the Museum
- ❑ Collaborations & Outreach with other community stake holders



2. Advocacy

- ❑ Bill 21
- ❑ 6 Townhalls with WRPS & Muslim community
- ❑ **CMW Report: 'Islamophobia in WR'**
- ❑ **CMW Report: 'Muslim Women's Needs Assessment'**
- ❑ Monthly meetings with WRPS EDI team
- ❑ Consultations with WRDSB
- ❑ Advocating for victims of hate
- ❑ Media appearances and press releases



3. Trainings

- ❑ Ontario Human Rights framework
- ❑ Anti-Islamophobia Trainings with City of Kitchener, Wellbeing Waterloo, WRPS Youth Initiative, University of Waterloo, SHORE Waterloo, Women's Crisis Services, WR District School Board, etc.
- ❑ Training Active Bystanders
- ❑ Appropriate learning resources to School board, educators, service providers



4. Education & Awareness

- ❑ **Workshops for racialized communities on Hate crimes, hate incidents, discrimination**
- ❑ Info sessions on family law, vaccinations, health and wellbeing, domestic violence, community resources, etc.
- ❑ Peer worker led biweekly sessions in 10 diff languages
- ❑ Book clubs for women & youth



5. Services for Community



- ❑ Hate Reporting System (reportinghate.ca): Documenting hate incidents
- ❑ **One on One Supports for Victims**
- ❑ 'Sulah' – Mediation & Restorative Justice
- ❑ Counselling referrals, mental health supports
- ❑ Contacting Police services when needed
- ❑ Speaking to concerned authorities to address incidents of discrimination, racism, Islamophobia
- ❑ Advocacy for cases related to Ontario Human Rights Tribunal