

MILTON MUSLIMS CONNECT



Volume 3, Issue 1

Tuesday March 31, 2015

MUSLIM ASSOCIATION OF MILTON

Dear Brothers and Sisters *السلام عليكم*

Alhamdulillah, this is the first issue of our newsletter after a 4-year hiatus; it was exactly 5 years ago, on Mar 15, 2010 when MAM first published a newsletter. With the re-introduction of this newsletter, we are hopeful in re-establishing an effective means of communicating with you and keeping you informed of events and announcements Insha'Allah. This being our "first" newsletter, we will make changes in subsequent issues as we incorporate your suggestions for improvements. We pray that you find it informative and that it becomes a means for you to **RE-CONNECT** with MAM.



Alhamdulillah, spring is finally here after the deep freeze that was the winter of 2015. With it a new dawn is rising in MAM...

Just like winter, MAM was equally in a deep freeze for the past couple of years. The new dawn is a consequence of the Feb 22/2015 Board elections. On that cold and freezing winter day, the members of MAM braved the weather and came out in droves to usher in a new Board. The turnout was amazingly high at 65% of the total membership, Masha'Allah. And the members spoke loud and clear, by resoundingly electing a new Board with 95% of the total votes cast, Subhan'Allah. We thank you for placing your trust in us. We will work hard for you. We will work hard to turn MAM into a world class Muslim organization, Insha'Allah.

What has the Board done?

Since its election, the Board has worked hard to **develop a code of conduct** to help guide relationships and behaviour of members, staff and anyone affiliated with the organization. The code of conduct is based on the need for everyone to treat one another with respect and courtesy in order to bring about order and discipline in the organization. Board, staff, volunteers and members are all expected to read and sign the code of conduct indicating their agreement to abide by the code.

The Board has also implemented processes within MAM and the way MAM operates, so that it can be compliant with requirements in the new *Canadian-Not-for-Profit Corporations Act*.

Developed and designed an organizational structure

Setup functional committees

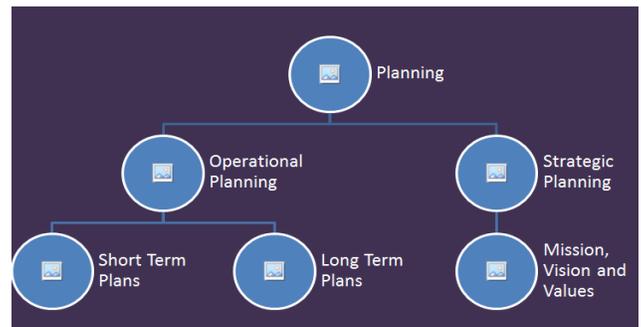
Recruited volunteers and sent them off to plan activities

The Board **formulated a governance structure** that will serve the members and the community, and will enable MAM to move forward in compliance with the *Act*. The Board **setup various functional committees** to focus efforts and to break the work at hand into meaningful and controllable chunks.

The Board **recruited volunteers** to serve on the committees - volunteers with the necessary expertise and commitment to address issues MAM faces and to achieve organizational goals. The volunteer recruitment drive resulted in an overall increase in the volunteer base by 525% from prior years' levels. The success of the recruitment drive was astounding and reflects members' and community enthusiasm with the new dawn at MAM, Subhan'Allah.

What have the committees done?

The committees have embarked on their journey of "Planning" Association activities. They are currently engaged in short and long term planning of activities, as well as redefining our mission, vision and values. The committees will report to the Board on all planned activities in due course.



The Board also plans to **hold monthly open house meetings** to update you on activities and projects. **OUR FIRST OPEN HOUSE IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 19, 2015.** The Board is excited and optimistic about the prospects of MAM's future... and the future indeed looks extremely bright.

We cannot effect all the improvements and changes without your continued support and participation. MAM needs everyone to participate and contribute ideas and financial resources to realize our collective objectives and goals. Please be a positive force, driving a positive change, in a positive way for Allah SWT. **Please join the multitude of MAM volunteers working toward our common goal.** May Allah SWT reward you with his blessings.

JAZAK ALLAHU KHAIRAN
The Board of Directors, MAM

Contact us at info@miltonmasjid.com

4269 RR#25 Status

- Roughly 12 Acre paid off property
- Approved zoning as place of worship
- Approved Site Plan
- Site Plan expires January 2016

Current Services

- 3 Daily Prayers
- Friday Prayers
- Kids Quran Classes on Saturday and Sunday

Accomplishments over the past 6 weeks

In addition to reviewing the documentation, processes, and affairs of MAM, below is the list of key accomplishments since the election on Feb 22nd 2015.

Code of Conduct

A code of conduct has been drafted to help guide relationships and behaviour of staff, members and anyone affiliated with MAM.

Board, staff, volunteers and members are all expected to read, sign, and adhere to the code of conduct.

Governance Structure

A governance structure has been formulated and various functional committees have been setup to break the work at hand into meaningful and controllable chunks.

Volunteer Base

The MAM volunteer base has been increased by 525% from recent prior years' levels.

The success of the recruitment drive reflects enthusiasm from members' and the community with the new dawn at MAM.

Cleansed website

While significant work is required to update/re-new the website, the current website has been cleansed in the interim.

Short Term Next Steps

- Develop and publish MAM Income Statement on monthly basis.
- Provide details on Construction plan and funds required.

- Commence work on finding a permanent Musallah in Milton for Daily Prayers.

WELCOME Open House

SUNDAY APRIL 19, 2015

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

4269 REGIONAL ROAD 25
OAKVILLE, ON, L6M 4E9

Please join us on April 19 as we hold our first open house. We will Insha'Allah present the state of the Association, zoning updates, and financials. Refreshments will be served. We hope to see you there!



Important Message

Tax Receipts

JazakAllah for all your donations. May Allah SWT increase you in your emaan, health and wealth, Ameen. The tax receipts for 2014 have been mailed out. If you have not yet received your tax receipt, please contact us at

info@miltonmasjid.com

Website

We have recently updated our website; while significant work is required to renew and update the website, the current website has been cleansed in the interim. Check us out at

www.miltonmasjid.com

Msg from Zeeshan Hamid

السلام عليكم

First, I want to share the news of passing of my good friend and fellow Councillor Maqsood (Max) Khan. He was completing his third term as a Town Councillor in Oakville, and was a nominated Liberal Candidate from Oakville North. His passing is a great loss for the community.

The main issue I want to discuss in today's newsletter is CN's proposal to build an intermodal rail yard on Britannia and Tremaine. CN projects adding 1,500 trailer truck traffic to Milton roads every day. Even if you do not live in the vicinity, you are

impacted because this facility will cost taxpayers in Milton millions of dollars in upfront cost and up to \$2 million per year in potential property taxes. The town is hiring an independent consultant to calculate the true impact. The main citizen group leading the effort to oppose this facility is Milton Says No (www.miltonsaysno.com). I encourage everyone to sign the petition on their website and get involved in an issue that impacts the entire region.

ZEESHAN HAMID is the Town Councillor for Ward 8 in Milton and can be reached via email at zee@ward8.ca. You can also follow him on his blog at <http://ward8.ca>.

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MAM Board of Directors

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Contact Information

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