



Hamilton

## INFORMATION REPORT

<b>TO:</b>	Chair and Members General Issues Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	December 8, 2021
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Support for the National Council of Canadian Muslims brought forward by the NCCM recommendations in Motion 6.2 (CM21015)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Sunil Angrish, Project Manager, Community Inclusion & Equity (905) 546-2424 Morgan Stahl, Director, Government Relations & Community Engagement (289)-556-6446
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Morgan Stahl Director, Government Relations & Community Engagement City Manager's Office
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

### COUNCIL DIRECTION:

At its meeting on August 13, 2021, Council approved the following motion:

- (b) That the Director of Government Relations and Community Engagement be directed to meet with local leaders of the National Council of Canadian Muslims and report back to the General Issues Committee on a plan that celebrates the history of local Muslims and assists in directing these leaders to existing programs, such as the City Enrichment Fund, to undertake NCCM Recommendation 59:
59. Invest in celebrating the history of local Canadian Muslims and initiatives through a concrete program that brings these figures and names to the forefront of local-level recognition. Municipalities should fund events and spaces where their accomplishments are celebrated in a way that clearly shows that Muslims have made real contributions to Canadian society and are far from the violent caricatures that constantly make the news.

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OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

**INFORMATION:**

The City of Hamilton recognizes the rise of hate crimes, including those focused on the Muslim community, both within the municipality and across Canada. This includes a recent Islamophobic attack in the City of Hamilton, allegedly by a Cambridge man, on the wife and daughter of Imam Kamal Gurgi of Hamilton's downtown mosque.

Hamilton City Council was requested to respond to the City of Hamilton's Muslim leaders respecting the municipal portion of the National Canadian Council of Muslims (NCCM) National Action Summit on Islamophobia. These recommendations were brought forward by the NCCM on July 19, 2021. Muslim leaders in Hamilton requested Council's endorsement and commitment to several of the municipal recommendations in the NCCM's report.

Following the August 13, 2021 council motion, city staff and officials engaged with the NCCM and Muslim leaders across Hamilton to discuss opportunities to address the recommendations outlined in the NCCM's July 19, 2021 report as per council's directive. To that end, city staff and officials met with the Hamilton Team Leader for NCCM throughout September, and most recently November 10, 2021 to discuss opportunities to work collectively.

The Mayor's Office and city staff held the first meeting with the National Council of Canadian Muslims and the striking of the Mayor's Anti-Islamophobia Advisory Group with a wide cross section of members of the Muslim community across Hamilton on September 28, 2021. This included NCCM's Advocacy Officer and the Hamilton Team Leader. Staff are currently working with national and local members of NCCM to ensure that subsequent meetings are fully representative of the Muslim community.

National and local members of NCCM met with city staff on October 7, 2021 to discuss the City of Hamilton's City Enrichment Fund (CEF) program and possible opportunities to support local projects, initiatives and a plan that celebrates history of local Muslims. City staff also provided recommendations to NCCM about potential provincial and federal funding streams that may assist in supporting the delivery of this programming and potential events.

Subsequently, the Mayor's office and city staff met with national NCCM staff on November 10, 2021 to discuss upcoming actions and steps with the Mayor's Anti-Islamophobia Advisory Group.

City staff will continue to work with NCCM on the following motion from Council that has been referred to report back to Audit, Finance and Administration Committee. Council

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can expect a supplementary report in early 2022 from Government Relations & Community Initiatives staff outlining next steps.

The Outstanding Business List Item respecting Council 21-014 Item 6.2 be identified as completed and removed from the General Issues Committee list.

**APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

None