



“Social Issue Conference 2006” Coping strategies for Major Social concerns

Objectives:

A conference planned to get the best of this world and here after

One of the dua given to us by Allah swt is: “Our Lord! Give us something fine in this world, and good in the “Akhira” and shield us from the torment of the Fire! Quran:2:201

MFNS will address the challenges facing our community that hinders our growth and development. In providing important conferences, MFNS hopes to forward critical and intellectual thinking among Calgarian Muslims in empowering themselves and their surroundings. We expect that these skills will be used by the conference participants in providing cross cultural and religious dialogue with greater Canadian society and fostering increased involvement and participation in future activities by both the Muslim and the larger society.

As concerned partners of the community, we see a tremendous need to rescue our youth and their families before they are lost in confusion about who they are as Muslim Canadians. We need, and the community needs to help them to be confident Muslims that will God-Willing contribute to making the Muslim community in Canada strong and vibrant. Muslim Canadians have overall much to offer in improving the life of every Canadian, but we cannot do this if we let problems, run rampant in our communities. We believe that if we can deal with these problems, then we can let flourish a productive and confident Muslim community - God Willing. To realize this vision, we have set the following objectives:

- To encourage parental support for children
- To help mitigate the negative effects of the mass media on Muslim religious and cultural identity
- To celebrate the achievements of Muslim Children and families in realizing the above objectives.

This is our mandate to provide an educational program for the community on these topics through an event such as this. As you know that in 2004 we did an extensive survey within the community to exactly find out about the challenges, here are some topics that we need to concentrate on:

. MFNS hopes to provide events such as the “Making your Mark on Canada” and Social Issue Conference in the future as it is an area which needs further expansion

Friday (evening) September 8, 2006 at 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM (break in between)

The suggested topics are:

- Building bridges for a better tomorrow
- Strong family – by choice
- Putting participation into practice – A guide to promote the mental health and wellbeing of families

Saturday- September 9, 2006(all day) workshops starting at 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

- Gender equity and Racism
- Culture of a youth, a guide to give them guidance
- Peer Pressure
- Depression – a matter of understanding
- Building a Bond and sense of belonging
- Bullying – the enemy within (as it is always not seen as damaging as physical abuse)
- Teens health, STD, AID and HIV – statistics and solutions
- Bridging the gap between the parents and the teens
- Internet use and abuse
- Anger management
- TV violence
- Discussing the un discussable – spousal violence facts base analysis and prevention
- Substance Abuse and alcohol (AADAC educators)
- Positive Parenting
- Improving Behavior through Counseling and Spirituality
- How to open the lines of communication

Sunday, September 10, 2006 individual and group counseling – 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Our objective is to address:

- the problem/clash between the family members
- Expectations of the individuals
- Know your rights Islamically

Goals:

- Proper guidance for families
- Develop a shared understanding of the issues and learn about what is needed, and what works.
- Articulate shared values and set common priorities
- Exploration of different horizons