



ISLAMIC FOUNDATION OF TORONTO

Organization Profile – July, 2013

Islamic Foundation of Toronto
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The Foundation

The Islamic Foundation of Toronto is one of the oldest and most active Muslim organizations in Canada. It was established in 1969. The 2.3 acres of land, where the Islamic Center currently stands, was purchased in 1984. It was a giant leap towards the vision of an institution beyond a neighborhood Masjid, but a center providing quality programs in the areas of religion, education and social services for the population of the Greater Toronto area.

The Center

The center was completed in 1992 at a cost of approximately 7 million dollars, to which the local Muslim community raised almost all funds. Today the center is a majestic, white stone, 3-storey high building. A 125-foot tall minaret captures the skyline, complimented by a copper-cladded dome, symbolizing the Muslim presence in Canada. The building is 53,000 square feet in area, with prayer halls for brothers and sisters of Islam. There are also 28 fully equipped classrooms, a cafeteria with a full kitchen, a gymnasium, library, mortuary, wide bright corridors, an elevator and over 200 parking spaces. The center is open for the 5 daily prayers that are mandatory upon all Muslims. The Friday congregation brings in over 2,500 people on a weekly basis. More than 7,000 people pray during our annual Eid congregational prayers.



The Schools

The Islamic Foundation School is an inspiring institution where we work together in pursuit of excellence in education and preparing lifelong learners with high moral values. The Goal is to provide our students an Islamic environment and teach them with Islamic Knowledge, values, and beliefs and to develop in children a sound character and responsible citizenship by fostering in them an appreciation for the Canadian experience and global perspective. To instill in them the necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes required to achieve academic excellence...

- The Sun, commended IFS in an article "This school has a perfect 10"
- The Fraser Institute in their recent annual report on Ontario schools has declared Islamic Foundation High School amongst the top 10 schools in Ontario.

The full time school has qualified staff that teaches the Ontario recognized curriculum to over 700 students from Junior Kindergarten to the 12th grade. The evening and weekend Islamic classes are attended by more than six hundred students. The center also has a full time Hifz (memorization of the Qur'an) class. In addition, there are daily programs for adults, ranging from Arabic and other Islamic subjects, to sports and social activities.

Making a Positive Change – We Care!

- [Greening Sacred Spaces Program/](#) Green Committee: The Green Committee has been working since September 2006. Under Energy Action Planners community members saved a total of approximately 30 – 70% of energy through their activities. Out of all the sacred spaces participating in greening in Toronto, only 3 were chosen to receive an award and one of them was Islamic Foundation.
- “Shifa Fund” for [SickKids Hospital](#): This youth initiative raised C\$ 25,000 for SickKids Hospital in aid for their research programs. Shifa Fund was recognized as achieving the highest level of fundraising among all the groups registered and was recognized through an award by SickKids Hospital.
- Contributed to the Fundraising for [Stouffville Hospital](#): IFT made a contribution of C\$ 90,000 towards the expansion project of Stouffville Hospital. IFT has pledged to contribute \$100,000.
- Pledged to contribute \$100,000 to [MRI Project](#) of Scarborough Hospital. Already paid over \$60,000 in 2012.
- IFT Cricket team participated in Scarborough 2013 World Cup of Cricket tournament raising \$5,000 for [Scarborough Hospital cancer care Program](#).
- IFT has contributed over \$110,000 towards the establishment of a [15 Beds Mother/Child Hospital](#) in Kisumu, Kenya which will be ready in August 2013.
- [Youth Integration Programs](#): We have worked with marginalized youth by going beyond the apparent symptoms, and working to identify the actual causes, in order to efficiently work towards meaningful solutions.
- [Annual Appreciation Dinner](#) to honour men & women of Emergency Services, Human Rights, Environmentalist, Media, Education and Sports: This annual banquet carries within it the mission of building bridges of communication and understanding between the Islamic community, the government officials and other communities, as well as the goal of supporting and promoting those members of community who make significant contributions in our province, through such key areas as Police, Fire, EMS, Social Justice, Media, Social Services, Organizations providing Humanitarian and Relief Services , Education, Sports and Environmentalists.
- [Fundraising Projects](#): Fundraising events for victims of the Tsunami in 2004, Asian Earthquake in 2005, Pakistan Earth Quake in 2005, Bangladesh Cyclone in 2007, China - Sichuan Province Earth Quake, 2008, Gaza Victims in 2009, Guyana and Trinidad Educational Development Program 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, Australian Bushfire in 2008, Pakistan Flood in 2009 and 2010, Haiti disaster in 2011, Pakistan Flood in 2011, Burma in 2012 and Bangladesh in 2007, 2008 and 2013. In 2013 IFT also adopted a Canadian Welfare Public School in Pakistan and are also planning a first school for students with mental and intellectual challenges in Islamabad, Pakistan.
- IFT is supporting [three orphanages](#) in Sri Lanka since Tsunami in 2004/2005.

- **Doors Open Toronto:** For over a decade IFT has been consecutively participating and showcasing its facilities to the general public during the City's' celebrated "Doors Open Toronto" event. In 2010 the City selected IFT as one of premier sites to be featured on the cover page of all their promotional material. Over the course of 2 days, approximately 700 Ontarians guests visit the Islamic Foundation.
- **Hot Soup Day Program:** Hot Soup Day is a "Free Restaurant" for the homeless and needy at Islamic Foundation of Toronto. As the only Saturday meal service in the East End, it didn't take long for HSD to establish itself as a well-known initiative that the community could come to rely on. What started in 2004, serving 10-15 guests on a weekly basis soon turned into an interactive experience complete with smiling ushers, welcoming hosts and energetic servers. At present food is served to more than 600 people every Saturday, and goes as far as delivering meals right to the homes of those unable to come on their own.
- **Events and Political Awareness:** In the spirit of increasing the number of voter participation, IFT plans and organizes Town Hall Meetings during Federal, Provincial and Local elections.
- **Leaders and Youth Conference – Moving Forward:** IFT organized and hosted a conference which was attended by Imams, leaders, educators, and active youths from a wide cross-section of the Muslim communities in Ontario and beyond. Important topics were discussed and a working paper was presented on critical issues. IFT and MSA (UofT) are holding joint programs and seminars promoting greater understanding between Muslim Youth and the Masajid.



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