



Ramadan 1439

**RAMADAN MUBARAK**

May 2018 Edition: 2

**Editor's note:** Welcome to the second edition of the BCMA Gazette. May has been a very active month Alhumdolillah. This newsletter provides a variety of updates with focus on Education, Zakaat and Masjid activities. We pray the month of Ramadan bring blessings to you and your families. June edition will bring EID celebration stories from around the Lower Mainland. Early Eid Mubarak to everyone!



## Presidents Message – Iltaf Sahib

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Assalaam wa'alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu and Ramadhan Mubarak to all.

By the grace and blessings of Allah (swt), once again the month of Ramadhan has showered its blessings and tranquility upon us. This is the month where the rewards are multiplied immensely for every good deed that we do. This is the month of Mercy, a month of forgiving others and asking for forgiveness from Allah (swt), and seeking refuge from the punishments of the hereafter.

This blessed month also gives us an opportunity to remember our pioneers of the BCMA who have worked so hard to establish this great organization. Some of our prominent members who were with us last Ramadhan and are no longer with us this Ramadhan. This is the month where we should make lots of dua, not only for ourselves, but for our pioneers, our friends, relatives, and all who have passed away from this world. May Allah (swt) forgive them and purify them of any shortcomings, and give them the best place in Jannah.

Surely, we cannot forget the atrocities that are happening namely in Palestine, Syria, Burma, and many other places around the world. May Allah (swt) remove all the hardships from our brothers and sisters and bring peace and harmony throughout the world. For the change to take place, a lot has to do with our own actions and duas. Let's forgive each other, and not look at each others faults as this will result in loss of our good deeds. Let us fully utilize this month to make dua for everyone, increase our ibadaat, read and reflect on the Quran daily for in this blessed month the holy Quran was revealed to our beloved prophet, Mohammed (pbuh).

This is also the month of charity and we should timely dispense our zakat and more importantly Zakat-ul-Fitra before this month ends so that it can reach to the poor and the needy. We have many needy families in and around every locality throughout BC so please contribute it to our local masajids to distribute to the needy families in our community first.

In this blessed month, I would like to acknowledge our volunteers, brothers and sisters and committee members in various divisions of the B.C. Muslim Association who put in long hours to serve our community. I would like to also like to thank our Trustees, head office staff, and my wonderful Executive team for their unity and strong support that they have been giving me.

Lastly, I will take this opportunity to thank my entire team of respected ulema of every masjid, who work so hard, and sometimes at odd hours to serve our growing community every day. May Allah reward you all immensely from his vast treasures.

We hope that Allah (swt) gives all of us the taufiq to fully benefit from these beautiful days of Ramadhan by utilizing our time properly, and enable us to enjoy the blessed nights of tarawih.

May you have a blessed Ramadan and Eid Mubarak!

## MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Sikandar Khan, VP



Alhamdulillah we are half way through the blessed month of Ramadan. The festive occasion of Eid ul Fitr is about to dawn upon us. In the spirit of this festive celebrations, let us join hands in fostering unity and brotherhood as a way of demonstrating steadfast resolute towards our fellow Canadians. Goodwill begins with our neighbours irrespective of our faith or where we come from. In the spirit of celebrations, we must be mindful of the weak and vulnerable amongst us and pray for those who are sick and departed. We must not forget in our prayers the plight of the people of Palestine, Syria and other places in the world where people are oppressed and or under hardships. May Allah Almighty enable us all to have very meaningful and joyous Eid celebrations. Eid Mubarak

### Media Message:

The B.C. Muslim Association condemns in the strongest terms the action of Israeli forces in the killings of 60 Palestinians near the Gaza - Israeli border in the beginning of Ramadan. This was an act of aggression on the civilians who were indulged in a peaceful protest.

\*\*\*\*

We wish to fully support the statement made by the Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau who speaks for all Canadians. Portion of his quote is as follows, "Canada deplores and is gravely concerned by the violence in the Gaza Strip that has led to a tragic loss of life and injured countless people. Amongst the wounded along with so many unarmed people, including civilians, members of the media, first respondents and children. "

\*\*\*\*

The Association also offers its profound condolence and prayers to the victims of Santa Fe High school shooting in Texas. Sabika Sheik, an exchange student from Pakistan, and nine other victims were among 10 people killed on Friday May 18 2018.

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

[Imtiaz Asin youth@thebcma.com](mailto:Imtiaz.Asin@thebcma.com)



**Spirit of Islam** once again captivated the community at this year's conference with the theme The Quran book of guidance. The two days were packed with knowledge and **Virtues from the Quran** with exquisite discussions taking place such as gender roles and the preservation of the Quran. We were blessed to have renowned speakers share their gems with the community: Sheik Suliman Moola, Sheik Daood Butt, Sister Tasneem Ghauri, Sheik Yahya Momla, Sheik Nur Ismail and Mufti Shujaath. Allhumdolillah it was truly a weekend to remember. Young Ummah BCMA would like thank all branches, speakers, attendees, volunteers and sponsors for their continued support of our programs and initiatives



## EDUCATION

### Raza Mirani, VP Education



On behalf of the Board of Education (BoE) I would like to wish you all a belated Ramadan Mubarak. I pray that Allah keeps us all in His graces during this blessed month. The newly formed Board of Education has been in operation for over a month and have been kept busy during that time. With the hiring of Dr. Osman as Principal of BCMS, we have established a new leadership team for BCMA's education portfolio. The goal of the BoE is to provide the best educational opportunity for our children within an Islamic environment. A **strong focus** on the newly revised BC curriculum and a synergy of Islamic content and delivery between our two schools is a priority. Ensuring we have qualified teachers working with our students is another top priority. As many of you know, BC is facing a teacher shortage and jobs are plentiful in both the private and public sector. Enticing qualified teachers to join our schools is something we must continue to do and taking a hard look at our current model is a must if we are to remain sustainable and vibrant.

Having said that I am so very pleased to announce that **Surrey Muslim School** was **ranked #1** on the recent Fraser Institute rankings of BC schools. This achievement could not have been accomplished without Allah's blessings and the hard work and dedication of our teachers, parents, support staff, office staff and administrative staff. We look forward to many more **accomplishments** from SMS and BCMS, Inshallah. Finally, I would like to encourage you to enroll your children with our schools. An education can be achieved through a variety of means, whether public, home, private or independent. Educating a child with the values of Islam embedded in day-to-day practice is unique and a gift we must not take for granted. Inshallah, the Board of Education will continue to work towards continued support, **excellence and achievement**. With your support the future of our children is in good hands.



#### Meet the Board of Education (BOE)

- ✚ Raza Mirani - Chair / VP of Education
- ✚ Musa Ismail - Co-Chair / Surrey Lead
- ✚ Mohammed Fazal - Secretary / IT Lead
- ✚ Ebrahim Bawa - Richmond Lead / Curriculum Lead / Principal Liaison
- ✚ Sr. Sharween Siddeeq - Curriculum Lead
- ✚ Faisal Abdul Aziz - Member-at-Large / Past Chair and VP of Education



Raza Mirani has been an educator for over 20 years with the Vancouver School District. He received a Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Education and Masters in Education with a focus on Digital Learning and Curriculum at UBC along with a graduate diploma from SFU and a life-long learner. Br. Raza is currently employed as a Secondary School Vice Principal with the Vancouver School Board. He has been a past-president of Pakistan-Canada Association, former secretary for Pakistan Festival and former VP of Education with the BCMA. Br. Raza has been a community volunteer for over 20 years working to promote Islam, the rights of Muslims in Canada and achieving a voice for Muslims on the Municipal, Provincial and Federal platforms.



Enroll your kids  
at BCMS today!

## ZAKAAT – Imam Yahya Momla



Zakāh is one of the **5 pillars of Islam** and an obligation upon every Muslim whom the Sharī'ah defines as wealthy. Below are some details in Q&A format regarding zakāh

### Who is zakāh obligatory upon?

Zakāh is **obligatory** upon the individual who is the owner of 87.48 grams of gold or its equivalent in cash; this amount is called the nisāb. A condition for the obligation of zakāh is that an individual still own nisāb or more on the anniversary of one lunar Islamic year. 87.48 grams of gold is equivalent to \$4645 CAD on May 22, 2018.

Perhaps this will better be understood through an example. Abdullah becomes the owner of nisāb on the 1<sup>st</sup> of Safar 1438. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of Safar 1439, if after subtracting all of his immediate liabilities Abdullah still owns nisāb or more, he will give zakāh.

### How much Zakāh is to be given?

Generally speaking (with the exception of agricultural produce and livestock) once the threshold of nisāb is met and all other pre-requisites are in place, 2.5% of ones total wealth is given in zakāh.

### Must zakāh be given during the month of Ramadān?

No. The date you give zakāh will depend totally on when you first became the owner of the nisāb and whether or not you meet the threshold every year thereafter. However, you may choose to calculate your zakāh on its due date and delay distribution until the month of Ramadān.

### Who is eligible to receive zakāh?

The eligible recipients of zakāh are mentioned in **verse 60 of Sūrah al Tawbah**. For most people, the primary recipients of zakāh will usually be the poor and needy.

“Zakāh expenditures are only for the poor and for the needy and for those employed to collect [zakāh] and for bringing hearts together [for Islam] and for freeing captives [or slaves] and for those in debt and for the cause of Allah and for the [stranded] traveler - an obligation [imposed] by Allah . And Allah is Knowing and Wise.”

### Can zakāh be given to the Masjid?

Yes. The eligible recipients of zakāh are listed in the Qur'ān. The **Masjid** is not one of the eligible recipients of zakāh. However, masājid can most certainly become the vehicles for the distribution of zakāh. Masjids in North America act as agents who distribute you zakāh on your behalf.

### What types of wealth is zakāh due on?

The types of wealth zakāh is due upon include cash, gold/silver (in any form), business inventory, stocks, and retirement savings (pensions, RRSPs). This is not an exhaustive list. The specific rulings for each of these categories of wealth should be discussed with a qualified Muslim scholar.

These are just some very basic rulings regarding zakāh. Since zakāh is an act of worship, great care should be exercised when discharging this sacred obligation. It is recommended that every individual seek the guidance of a qualified Muslim scholar in matters concerning zakāh.

Please donate generously through our:

- BCMA Branches
- Muslim Schools
- Head Office
- Funeral Services
- via paypal



**RAMADAN  
2018  
Give**



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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Abbotsford Expansion Project

Tahir Khalid, Chair

Abbotsford.chairperson@thebcma.com

We are pleased to announce that Abbotsford Branch will move forward Insha'Allah with the purchase of the adjacent property for future expansion. In February, **Abbotsford** Board member, Br Zakariya Keyani approached and convinced the owner to sell the property which was already proposed for a townhouse project. After the approval of the Executive Council, a decision to purchase was made and most recently, a deposit has been made for completion of purchase in August.



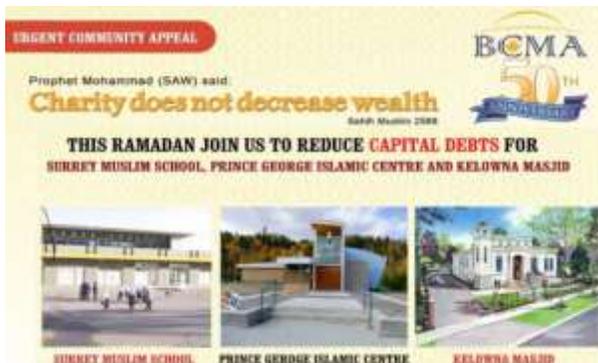
We thank all Executives for taking part in the discussion process and guidance and in particular Br Junaid Iqbal (VP Development) and Br Feroz Dean (Trustee) for providing their technical expertise and much needed help to complete the process.



The Executive team Brothers Iltaf Sahib , Sikandar Khan , Abdullah Nasib Ali , Afzal Khan and Shawkat Hasan made a courtesy visit to the **Nanaimo Islamic Centre** on May 13, 2018. Matters of mutual interest between the Branch and the Executive were discussed for the progress and development of the Branch.

### Seniors Centre Opening

BCMA **Surrey Delta Branch** officially opened their new services for the seniors in our community. The senior centre is adjacent to the Surrey Jamea Masjid and will give the seniors the opportunity to socialize between salah. The centre will also have computer classes and refreshments available.



*And to your parents, you shall be good. Should either one of them, or both of them, reach old age in your care, then you shall not say to either of them even so much as Fie! Nor shall you rebuke them. Rather, say to both of them a gracious word, in loving kindness. Al-Isra 17:23*

## RICHMOND JAMEA MASJID

Masjid Expansion Project Update  
Kader Chellabi, RMEC Chair

Alhamdulillah we have accomplished two major milestones this past two months, namely;

1. Completion of Preload Construction
2. Submission of Building Permit Application

• As of May 10, 2018, the status of the project is as follows:

1. Preload Construction is complete
  2. Building permit application is submitted with the city of Richmond.
  3. All professional contracts have been approved and signed. Except the sprinkler system construction contract which needs to be approved and signed. (Sprinkler system design is signed)
- The progress of the project saw some delays in the execution due the following
1. Complexities in joining the existent structure to the new structure. A second opinion was sought from structural engineer and the code consultant.
  2. New requirements of the building permit application. The sprinkler system design needed to be submitted along with the architectural drawings. Previously, it was not required at the time of submission.



- The Schedule of the project will slip because of the previous delay.
- The building permit is expected as early as end of July 2018.
- Request for bidding on the project will start right after Ramadan
- The construction will start as soon as the contractor is selected, and the building permit is obtained. This is estimated to be around mid- August 2018 at the earliest.
- The construction is expected to last 6 to 8 months in duration, which means that the project will be completed by February to April 2019. This will bring us right before **Ramadan 2019** Insha ALLAH.



### Richmond Masjid Ramadan Activities Chair: Fadi Kanafani

1. Daily Iftaar
2. Weekly Iftar and dinner on Saturdays and the night of 27th Ramadan
3. Provision for sisters (and with small children) to use multipurpose hall
4. Daily Taraweeh with Shaikh Mohammad Raslan (20 rakat)
5. Daily (except Fridays) Halaqas after Zuhur and Asr with Sheik Raslan with English translation
6. Khatm-al Quran the night of the 27 of Ramadan.
7. Provision for Itekaf in the last 10 days (registration needed, adult supervision required for children)

Richmond Masjid is once again participating in the **City of Richmond** Doors Open June 2/3 10am-4pm. Doors Open is a city wide celebration of heritage, culture and the arts including places of worship. Opening the doors of the Masjid to Non-Muslims is a great opportunity for non-Muslims to learn about Islam and the virtues of this blessed month.



## WOMENS VIEW

### Fasting and its Rewards

Sr. Tazul Ali, Secretary Womens Council



Fasting and juggling the normal routine for the women of the house is an exercise in itself. We still want to prepare more savouries, goodies and food for the month of Ramadan, because there is a change in the behaviour towards the Ramadan. Fasting is to refrain from food and drinks from Dawn to Sun set, yet there is the perception that we must need more for this month. There is excess of foods and drinks at the Iftars in the majasid. We eat a lot more during Ramadan so where is the sense of hunger and thirst that is needed to be experienced during this blessed month.

We have completed the first third of the month and we still have time to do what we may not have achieved so far. With Fasting, it is the time for connection with Allah, the Almighty, through paying heed to the five daily obligatory salat, doing Dhikr, performing Qayamul lail, reciting and understanding the Quran and implementing those guidelines in our lives. Ramadan is the month of communal connection and sharing the blessings so humility and compassion is much needed. So lets race to achieve these acts of goodness to earn the rewards promised by Allah the Most High, He said, “...Except for fasting, for it is for Me and I will give recompense for it.”(Sahih Bukhari) May our fasting and prayers and good deeds be accepted and rewarded.

On June 29, the Women’s Council is hosting an Eid Celebration Dinner for our sisters. It will be a time to enjoy the festivity with different cultures. Get your tickets from any of the BCMA Women’s branches.

*We, the women of BCMA, wish everyone Ramadan Mubarak and a very happy and joyful Eid ul Fitr!*



Food Drive Fundraiser



Spirit of Islam Seminar

### Rising Star!



Congratulations to Victoria Youth Director **Shazia Rashid** for winning the Victoria Community Leadership Award! This award Shares the inspiring stories and successes of leaders in the community. Read the winners List [here](#). **Congratulations Shazia!**



## Burnaby Masjid Al-Salaam Food Bank

### Breakfast with Masjid Al Salaam Food Bank Families.

On May 6th, Masjid Al-Salaam in Burnaby hosted its final monthly Food Bank before Ramadan. In attendance were VP Social Services Shawkat Hasan, the Executive members of BCMA, Social Service Directors from different branches, Women Council Executives, Burnaby Board members, Imad Ali from RCMP Surrey and Doris Mah, Community Engagement Coordinator office MP, Peter Julian and the committed volunteers. The gathering allowed the opportunity for BCMA officials/directors to meet with community members and Food Bank families.

There was information on accessibility of different resources. Literature from the RCMP, translated into Arabic, included a guide for newcomers to Canada and colouring books for children on safety were also distributed. Families were able to connect and have cordial and meaningful conversations with people around. Everyone enjoyed tea/coffee and refreshments.

Masjid Al Salaam is the only Branch of BCMA that operates Food Bank. It has been running since 2007 and will distribute over 42,000 pounds of food this year. The food bank opened in 2007, serving just five local needy families, but now has over 100 recipient families, many with large numbers of children.

On the first Sunday of each month, volunteers pack the food. Families receive about a 70-pound basket of items including meat, oil, canned goods, breakfast cereal, crackers, fresh bread, sugar, salt, tea, coffee, juice, margarine, peas and much more. Most of the recipients are from war torn countries in Africa, Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq. *Thank you to the donors and the dedicated volunteers for their continuous service.*



## SPORTS

Irshad Siddeeq, VP [sports@thebcma.com](mailto:sports@thebcma.com)



A very successful BCMA youth soccer skills on Sunday, May 13th at the Tom Binnie field in Surrey, BC has completed! 100 boys & 40 girls registered in the 6 week program. The numbers exceeded our expectations. The kids learned some great soccer skills and enjoyed some fun in the sun, prizes and t-shirts! Parents and kids are eager for more camps like this. Insha Allah we will continue to provide these services to our community. A big thanks to our sponsors: Flying Arrows Sports Club; Dean's Pharmacy; The Quality Sofamakers and Volunteer Coaches.

### Whats next for Sports?

July 7 & 8 - BCMA Mosque/ Eid Soccer Cup at the Newton Athletic Park - open to all ages.

Aug 25 & 26 - BCMA Nation's Cup at the Cloverdale Athletic Park - open to all ages.



# RICHMOND EID FESTIVAL



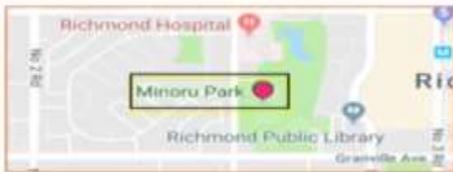
## RICHMOND EID FESTIVAL JUNE 2018

### Eid celebration at Minoru Park, Richmond

Eid al-Fitr is Muslims' religious holiday celebrated to mark the end of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting.

The BC Muslim Association Richmond Branch is organizing Eid prayer and festivities to recognize the Eid-ul-Fitr 2018.

Come and be part of our celebrations at Minoru Park, Richmond.



Eid Prayers and  
Celebration at  
Minoru Park

The largest  
Muslim gathering  
in Richmond

Free Food,  
Games and  
Activities

Reaching the  
Richmond  
community at  
large

Salah starts at 8:30 AM

BCMA

Richmond, BC

604-233-7006

[www.RichmondEid.ca](http://www.RichmondEid.ca)

[Register to volunteer](#)

[goo.gl/V6dTYe](https://goo.gl/V6dTYe)

Register [here](#) to volunteer for Richmond Eid Festival

## BCMA MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

Amount Due:

- \$50.00 for 5 years or
- \$25.00 Senior's over 65 years and full time students for 5 year.

Click [here](#) for online renewal or email [member@thebcma.com](mailto:member@thebcma.com)

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*EID MUBARAK!*

*Check your local Masjid or the BCMA website for EID Salah announcements.*

