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Asalamualaykum Warahmahtullahi Wabarakatu,

I pray this message finds all of you in the best of health an Islamic spirit. On behalf of B.C. Muslim Association, I want to wish you all a very blessed Ramadan. By the Will and Mercy of Allah Almighty, we have been blessed once again to observe the month of fasting, to have the opportunity to seek His forgiveness and reap the rewards of the blessed month. This is a month where Allah the Exalted showers down his mercy, opens the doors of paradise and chains the devils. Our beloved Nabi, RasulAllah (SAW) is reported to have said in an authentic Hadith:

“When Ramadan enters, the gates of Paradise are opened, the gates of Hellfire are closed and the devils are chained.” (Al-Bukhari and Muslim)

This is the month of charity, mercy, forgiving others, and asking forgiveness from Allah (SWT) and to secure our place in the hereafter. Many like us, lived throughout the year but did not get to live to see another Ramadan. We should all take this opportunity to ask forgiveness for the entirety of our Ummah and those who are no longer with us this year, and have returned to meet their maker. We remember all the terror attacks carried out and aimed towards Muslims. Whether it be the Muslim family that was brutally run over by a truck, or the Masjid shooting in Quebec, or even the shooting in New Zealand - our brothers and sisters were murdered and they will always stay in our duas. We pray Allah blesses them and raises their ranks in Jannah. Without a doubt we cannot forget all the atrocities that are happening to Muslims all over the world. Namely, our brothers and sisters in Palestine, Syria, Burma, and our Uyghur brothers and sisters in China. May Allah (AWJ) remove the hardships within the Muslim Ummah and bring unity and harmony amongst our nation.

In this blessed month, I would like to acknowledge the brothers and sisters and various committee members throughout the different divisions of the B.C. Muslim Association. The long hours that our volunteers put in to serve our community. I would like to also recognize our new boards, our trustees, Head Office staff, Imams, and my wonderful team of executives that surround me day-in-and-day-out. I want to thank you all for your support. We hope Allah (SWT) gives us all the Tawfeeq to benefit from these blessed days of Ramadan by fully maximizing our time throughout the day and being able to join Taraweeh at night.

To end on a positive note, I would like to remind everyone that the essence of this month is to maximize on our worship and come closer to Allah Almighty. With Ramadan being the month of charity, we should timely give our Zakaat and more importantly, Zakat-UI-Fitr. It would be most beneficial if our Zakat's are given before the end of the month so the needy families can utilize it to their needs. We have a lot of families within B.C. that need our help in the form of Zakaat, so let us give it to our local Masajid's to distribute to our needy families within our communities first.

Ramadan Kareem

Muhammad Asad Gondal
President
B.C. Muslim Association