The B.C. Muslim Association
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May 27, 2021

Assalaamu Alaykum,

CONTROLLED RE-OPENING OF BCMA MASAJID AND CENTERS

Since, March 16, 2020, the BCMA voluntarily closed its masajid and centers to contain the spread of coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. This decision was indeed very difficult and painful for us to make and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the overwhelming support and cooperation in this regard.

In Ramadan, we promised to re-open our masajid gradually provided the pandemic abate and the safety and health of our patrons to be our top priority. Alhamdulillah, the BCMA Executive Council and the Board of Religious Services decided to re-open our masajid and centers on May 28 within the guidelines of the Ministry of Health. Please contact your local branch for details.

The following are some of the restrictions and responsibilities that shall apply to the congregants and the managements:

Restrictions:

(a) Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 including fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and painful swallowing, must isolate at home for a minimum of 10 days;
(b) Anyone under the direction of the Provincial Health Officer to self-isolate must follow those instructions;
(c) Anyone who has arrived from outside of Canada, or who is a contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case, to self-isolate for 14 days and monitor for symptoms;
(d) In this phase we will accommodate all ages including sisters

Congregant Responsibility:

(a) Ensure you are permitted to attend a prayer at BCMA facility by the branch management;
(b) We recommend to visit washroom and make your wudu from home before coming to pray;
(c) Facemask or covering is mandatory;
(d) Bring a sanitized prayer mat;
(e) Arrive at the door 5 minutes before Iqama time;
(f) Exit the prayer hall and property within 5 minutes after the Fard salat. Please perform your Sunnah and Nawafil prayers at home;

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(g) Maintain 2-meter physical distancing at all times which means there shall be no hand shaking nor hugging on BCMA property;
(h) Follow any other rules set out by the local managements.

Branch Management Responsibility:

(a) Set up process to permit a maximum of 50 persons to pray per session;
(b) Permit and supervise congregants coming for prayer;
(c) Ensure 2-meter physical distancing rule is followed both inside the building and outside on BCMA property;
(d) Provide hand sanitizers at entrance;
(e) Disallow persons exhibiting sickness;
(f) Sanitize hard surface at least once a day;
(g) Sanitize high touch surfaces at least twice a day;
(h) Install CDC signage;
(i) Keep full record and file weekly incident report.

The Executive Council has also empowered each local branch managements to develop rules and guidelines suited to their respective site so we would highly appreciate if you please respectfully follow them.

The BCMA shall not be liable for any person(s) who acts contrary to the guidance of the Public Health Officer that may result in any negative outcome whatsoever.

We ask Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala that He protects us and showers us with His mercy, gives shifaa to all those afflicted with illness and grants Shahada to all that succumb, that He rewards all our essential workers, accepts our supplications, that He guides us to make the right decisions and forgives us for our shortcomings. Ameen.

The BC Muslim Association

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