



Williams Lake Muslim Association

WLMA Incorporated under the BC Societies Act (Number: S0081549)

Williams Lake Muslim Association Meeting

Meeting Date: February 15, 2025

Attendees: Dr. Rafiullah, Mrs. Afroj Azad, Dr. Ali Rehman, Mr. Arif Khan, Mr. Nadim Mulani, Mr. Imran Khan

Regrets: Dr. Abubakar Ahmer

Background:

The meeting was the formal Board of Directors (BOD) gathering, held to review the status and progress of assigned tasks. The pre-meeting agenda points were as follows:

1. A thorough discussion on activities and accomplishments after the last meeting.
2. Updates to Bank account of WLMA
3. Latest activities on acquiring Charitable status with CRA
4. Plan for the Holy Month of Ramadan
5. Development of advertising material
6. Contacting local businesses for donation and sponsorships
7. Marketing our idea of inclusivity on social media platforms

Meeting Points:

The meeting commenced with opening remarks by Dr. Rafiullah, who subsequently passed the session to Mr. Imran Khan for moderation.

1. Review of Previous Meeting and Accomplishments

Everyone shared a brief update on their activities, with special recognition given to Mr. Arif Khan for his initiative on returns. His efforts were highly praised and appreciated by all board members for their significance and impact.

2. Updates to Bank account of WLMA and Latest activities on acquiring Charitable status with CRA

Dr. Rafiullah and Dr. Ali Rehman demonstrated the Board about bank account of WLMA and status of registration with CRA as charitable organization. Account opening is completed and registration with CRA is in process.



Williams Lake Muslim Association

WLMA Incorporated under the BC Societies Act (Number: S0081549)

3. Plan for the Holy Month of Ramadan

Due to space constraints and to better accommodate female community members, we have decided to relocate our Musallah to the available apartment upstairs. We hope that our new two-bedroom apartment will provide us with the opportunity to fully embrace the spirit of Ramadan, InshaAllah.

Dr. Abubaker will lead the Taraweeh prayers, InshaAllah.

Additionally, it has been decided that a potluck Iftar will be organized by community members every Saturday at the mosque.

On Eid day, a light breakfast will be served by community members after the Eid prayer. Later, we will host a community Eid celebration, with food arranged through catering services.

4. Development of Advertising Material

It was discussed and unanimously decided that we should urgently design a pamphlet/brochure for WLMA. This pamphlet/brochure can be provided to CRA to support charitable status application. This brochure will provide a clear overview of our mission, activities, and objectives, ensuring that we meet the necessary requirements for formal recognition.

A key point of emphasis during the discussion was the need to initiate a donation appeal as soon as our registration is complete. Having a well-designed pamphlet ready in advance will allow us to effectively distribute information within the community and to potential donors. This will help raise awareness about WLMA's goals, services, and ongoing initiatives, encouraging financial support and community engagement.

Given the urgency of this matter, we will proceed with the content creation, design, and printing of the brochure as soon as possible.

5. Contacting local businesses for donation and sponsorships

A comprehensive plan will be developed to secure advertisements from local businesses, with a particular emphasis on promoting Halal food restaurants. This initiative aims to build strong relationships with business owners, encourage community engagement, and provide WLMA with a sustainable source of funding.

The plan will outline strategic outreach efforts, including identifying potential advertisers, preparing promotional materials, and setting up sponsorship packages. Special attention will be given to highlighting Halal food establishments, ensuring they receive visibility within the community while also supporting businesses that cater to our cultural and dietary preferences.



Willams Lake Muslim Association

WLMA Incorporated under the BC Societies Act (Number: S0081549)

Additionally, we will explore various advertising platforms, such as WLMA brochures, community newsletters, social media, and event sponsorships, to maximize exposure for participating businesses. This initiative will not only help generate revenue but also strengthen community connections and support local enterprises.

6. Marketing our idea of inclusivity on social media platforms

It was discussed and agreed that we should expand our outreach efforts to connect with both the broader community and our own community members more effectively. This initiative aims to strengthen relationships, foster inclusivity, and create greater awareness of WLMA's mission, activities, and services.

By increasing our visibility and engagement, we aim to build stronger connections, promote understanding, and encourage greater participation from all community members.

Ending Note:

The meeting was well-coordinated and highly productive, successfully achieving key milestones, including securing a new two-bedroom apartment and ensuring the inclusion of female community members in prayers.

Looking ahead, our focus remains on completing registration with the CRA and obtaining charitable status, which will further empower WLMA. This status will enable us to launch a donation appeal and organize fundraising campaigns, ensuring long-term financial sustainability.

Members expressed their appreciation for the integrated thought process and collaborative approach, emphasizing the importance of unity and strategic planning in strengthening and sustaining our collective efforts.

The next meeting is scheduled for the third Saturday of March.