

The Green Square Campaign

Material for Educators



**NATIONAL
COUNCIL
OF CANADIAN
MUSLIMS**

Your Voice. Your Future.

**CONSEIL
NATIONAL
DES MUSULMANS
CANADIENS**

Votre voix. Votre avenir.

JE ME SOUVIENS

La mosquée de Québec

I REMEMBER

Quebec City Mosque



Beginning in a Good Way

We recognize that the NCCM's work takes place on the traditional territories and ancestral lands of Indigenous peoples occupied by Canada. We acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishinaabe peoples, whose presence here continues to this day.

We recognize and deeply appreciate their historic connection to this place. We also recognize the contributions that Métis, Inuit, and other Indigenous peoples have made and continue to make in strengthening this community in particular, and our province and country as a whole.



Artist: Evan Wouthius Grade 9, Lakehead Public Schools.

A photograph capturing a somber scene at night. A group of men are gathered together, many with expressions of grief or distress. In the foreground, a man in a dark jacket is being embraced from behind by another man. To the left, a man in a blue and red jacket looks on with a serious expression. The background is filled with other people, some wearing winter hats and jackets, suggesting a cold environment. The lighting is low, with some bright spots from what might be emergency lights or flash photography. The overall mood is one of tragedy and mourning.

Quebec Mosque
Shooting, 2017

What Happened?



Approximately five years ago, on January 29, 2017, the Islamic Cultural Centre of Quebec City was subjected to a tragic, hateful and Islamophobic crime. A gunman who was radicalized with white supremacist ideology entered the place of worship and opened fire on the worshipers, killing 6 men and injuring many more.

As we approach January 29, it is important for us to be mindful that this time can be increasingly difficult for Muslim staff, students and families.

What is the Green Square Campaign?



The Green Square Campaign takes place in the week leading up to January 29 every year to remember the victims and survivors of the Quebec City mosque attack. The green square represents the green carpets of the Quebec City mosque, where the victims last stood to pray. It symbolizes the fact that the deceased are, God willing, in a garden green, in a better place since they left us that night.

Wear the green square in solidarity with the six widows, the seventeen children left fatherless, Aymen Derbali who is left paralyzed for life, and every single person suffering the consequences of this hateful and despicable act of violence.

For more information on the Green Square Campaign (GSC) visit www.greensquarecampaign.ca/

Designated Day: January 29th

"National Day of
Remembrance of the
Québec City Mosque
Attack and Action
against Islamophobia"

As of January 2020, the Federal Government has designated January 29th as the day to remember the victims of the Islamic Cultural Centre of Quebec Shooting.

The survivors of this tragic act of terror wish to towards a better future for Canadian Muslims and for us all to focus on being part of meaningful Action against Islamophobia.

Addressing this day meaningfully within safe spaces like schools and classrooms becomes essential in the mission to be equitable educators against Islamophobia.

We have gathered a variety of resources such as curricular approaches and mental health supports that will equip all educators to be able to successfully mark this day and prompt important conversations in classrooms that work to affirm inclusion of Muslim identities.

Resources for Educators

1. Check out our resource guide for lesson plan activities, discussion prompts and even school announcements that are rooted in trauma-informed, anti-racist, and anti-Islamophobic frameworks. [Green Square Campaign Resource Guide for Educators](#)
2. Our Anti Racism resources can be found in our [Previous Newsletter](#).
3. Book an NCCM Workshop to learn how to promote equity and inclusion, and empower Canadian Muslim students, colleagues and families. Click here to request a workshop and view our Workshop Menu [Request a Workshop](#)
4. For more information on the Green Square Campaign, please visit our webpage <https://www.nccm.ca/greensquare/>
5. Sign up for our Educators Newsletter [Here](#) to receive an annual newsletter full of anti-racist, anti-Islamophobic and equity-based classroom resources

Creating Safe Spaces - Trauma Informed Approach

As we approach January 29, it is important for us to be mindful that this time can be increasingly difficult for Muslim staff, students and families. Addressing trauma and its effects on our students is becoming an increasing need because of the profound effect trauma has on them. Creating a safe space becomes necessary for students to be able to safely discuss this incident and enduring understandings from it. Below are some resources that can help:

1. Safe Discussion Protocol Handout; [Safe Discussions Protocol.pdf](#)
2. Counter Islamophobia Lesson and Webpage; [Learning for Justice Webpage](#)
3. The Challenge Islamophobia Project (webpage with free lesson plans rooted in trauma informed approaches); [Challenge Islamophobia Project](#)
4. Guides for Using Trauma Informed Discussion Techniques; [Trauma Informed Discussion Guides](#)
5. Article on Trauma-Informed Education; [Understanding Trauma-Informed Education](#)

Mental Health Supports

A strong trauma-informed response is to offer Muslim students, colleagues and families mental health support as needed throughout the upcoming days to January 29th. Below are culturally responsive mental health supports:

1. Khalil Center : is a psychological and spiritual community wellness center advancing the professional practice of psychology rooted in Islamic principles.
2. Cedarway Therapy: trained and experienced clinicians from diverse backgrounds, speaking different languages (English, French, Arabic, Urdu, Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi), and offering culturally and spiritually responsive services
3. Affective Consulting and Psychotherapy: Low cost, private psychotherapy service geared towards supporting Muslim youth
4. Salaam Canada: organization dedicated to support young queer Muslims

Community Support Gallery



Community Support Gallery



Thank you!

**Please feel free to contact NCCM's
Education Department if you have any
questions!**

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