**UNITED NATIONS WORLD INTERFAITH**

**HARMONY WEEK**

**Sponsored by the Calgary Interfaith Council**

**February 1-7, 2019**

**Welcome**

Calgary is blessed by a broad diversity of religious faiths whose origins and history originate from places that span the globe. Our city is enriched by the broad spectrum of languages, foods, and cultures that define Calgary’s international flavour. The ability of these religions, in particular, to flourish in a setting of respect and dignity is essential for the city’s future.

The intention of the Calgary Interfaith Council’s sponsorship of UN World Interfaith Harmony Week is to join with similar efforts throughout Canada and internationally to promote peaceful

coexistence in the face of intolerance, prejudice, and conflict.

Over the past several years, great strides have been made to create interfaith dialogues and educational programs to foster greater understanding and respect that can lead to the building of harmonious relationships between Calgary’s faith communities.

We are proud of the presence of active clergy and laity from all faiths whose passion is interfaith work and who devote their time, energy, and resources to enhancing the quality of life for all Calgarians.

We encourage you to become aware, learn, and appreciate the contribution of the interfaith community through the exciting array of programs and activities during this week of harmony.

**Calgary Interfaith Council**

**“Promoting Interfaith Harmony & Understanding”**

The formation of the Calgary Interfaith Council in 2017 at the UN World Interfaith Harmony Week Opening Ceremony represented the hope of religious leaders for a new and re-energized interfaith effort that would more effectively harness the wisdom and good works of Calgary’s religious communities for the greater good of our city.

It is the vision of the Calgary Interfaith Council to become the voice and central address of interfaith activities in Calgary and, as such, to achieve its mission to:

 promote respect, understanding, and collaboration among the religious communities of Calgary (through education, dialogue, mutual worship experiences, and social justice),

 provide government and media with a single reputable contact for information and communication with and about the various religious communities in Calgary,

 model for Calgary interfaith relationships characterized by respect, understanding, mutual support and collaboration.

Among our shared core values are respect for religious diversity, compassion for those in need, building bridges of understanding, and fostering interfaith relationships through education, dialogue, mutual worship experiences, and social justice.

The Calgary Interfaith Council invites you to join us in this exciting venture by participating in our events and giving of your time and resources to further our worthy goals.

**For more information, please go to www.calgaryinterfaithcouncil.org**

**City of Calgary Proclamation**

**United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week**

**February 1-7, 2019**

**WHEREAS:**

The 2010 UN General Assembly approved unanimously the first week of February as the UN World Interfaith Harmony Week.

The Freedom to observe and practice one's religion, individual

conviction, faith or beliefs without fear is a fundamental right,

recognized under the Canadian Bill of Rights.

The City of Calgary teems with the beauty and richness of diverse ethnic, cultural, racial, and religious communities that enhance the dignity and respect for all citizens.

The City of Calgary recognizes the significant contributions of these interfaith communities to the overall well-being and success of civic life and thereby supports the development of programs that foster the understanding and sharing of this diversity.

The City of Calgary recognizes the equality of rights and privileges of residents from all its diverse communities, promotes zero tolerance of discrimination, and recognizes the diverse need of its communities.

The City of Calgary encourages and supports the development of

programs and projects that promote harmony among its diverse

communities.

The City of Calgary encourages its diverse communities to share their customs, values and traditions with one another in the spirit of mutual respect, peace and harmony.

**THEREFORE**, I, Mayor Naheed Nenshi on behalf of the Calgary City Council do hereby proclaim February 1-7, beginning in 2019 as the annual UN World Interfaith Harmony Week in Calgary.

**Province of Alberta**

**Proclamation**

**United Nations**

**World Interfaith Harmony Week**

**WHEREAS**

United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week is an opportunity to raise awareness of religious intolerance, misunderstanding or

ignorance and bring opportunity for mutual self -reflection,

open-mindedness and respect to all religions; and

**WHEREAS**

the Province of Alberta respects the equality of rights and privileges of residents from all its diverse communities, and encourages

interreligious dialogue among different faiths to enhance mutual

understanding, harmony and cooperation among its people; and

**WHEREAS**

upholding a zero tolerance for discrimination and supporting

programs and projects that inspire Albertans to practice and observe one's religion, individual conviction, or beliefs without fear is a

priority of the government and community partners in Alberta;

**THEREFORE** 1, Rachel A. Notley, Premier of Alberta, do hereby proclaim February 1st to 7th beginning in 2018 to be the annual "*United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week*" in the

Alberta.

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Honourable Rachel A. Notley, M.L.A.

Premier of Alberta

**UN World Interfaith Harmony Week**

**Schedule of Events: January 31-February 7, 2019**

**January 31**

6:30-8:00pm Opening Ceremony at City Hall Atrium

**February 1-3** Calgary Houses of Worship devote sermons to theme of “Civility and Public Discourse”

**February 5th**

8:00-9:30am Interfaith Breakfast - “*I Choose Civility: Listening, Caring, and Engaging*”; Hosted by Beth Tzedec Congregation (1325 Glenmore Trail SW). $10 suggested donation.

Please rsvp to [info@calgaryinterfaithcouncil.org](mailto:info@calgaryinterfaithcouncil.org). or 403-255-8688

**February 7th**

6:00-8:00pm Concluding Dinner & Celebration of Interfaith HarmonyWeek

Hosted by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (2021 17 Ave SW). $20 suggested donation per person.

Please rsvp to: [info@calgaryinterfaithcouncil.ca](mailto:info@calgaryinterfaithcouncil.ca) or 403-255-8688.

**February 12th**

4:30-6:00pm My Story at Mt. Royal U.- Room U111 (near recreation)

This event gives voice to post-secondary students as they have come to understand what faith and religion mean to them and their unique journey and experiences along the way. Contact Greg Veltman, Interfaith Coordinator, [gveltman@mtroyal.ca](mailto:gveltman@mtroyal.ca) or cell: 587-586-5261

**ALL EVENTS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**To RSVP and for more information, contact**

**www.calgaryinterfaithcouncil.org or call 403-255-8688 ext. 2**

**UN World Interfaith Harmony Week**

**Opening Ceremony**

**January 31, 2019 - 6:30-8:00pm at City Hall Atrium**

1. “O Canada” - Cantor Russell Jayne
2. Procession of Faith Leaders
3. Welcome and Introduction of UN Interfaith Harmony Week- Imam Fayaz Tilly
4. Treaty 7 Acknowledgment – Chantal Chagnon, Indigenous Artist and Educator
5. Call to Prayer- Malik Ashraf (Muslim), May Cummings (Bah’ai), Rev. Wallace Bornhuse (Lutheran)
6. Greetings & Calgary Proclamation - Mayor Naheed Nenshi
7. Greetings & Alberta Proclamation - Anam Kazim, MLA, Calgary – Glenmore
8. Traditional Indigenous Song- Chantal Chagnon
9. Program: “Imparting Civility: Two Local Initiatives” highlighting the Lil Faider Interfaith Scholar-in-Residence Project with Rabbi Shaul Osadchey and the “Urban Indigenous Circle” with Tony Snow, Indigenous Right Relations Lead.
10. Closing Remarks and Invitation to Upcoming Programs- Imam Fayaz Tilly
11. “*Od Yavo Shalom*\*”- Cantor Russell Jayne

\*OD YAVO SHALOM ALEINU PEACE WILL YET COME

Od yavo shalom aleinu Peace will yet come upon us

Od yavo shalom aleinu, ve’al kulam (x2) Peace will yet come upon us, and everyone

Salaam, aleinu ve’al kol ha’olam, Salaam, upon us and upon the whole world

Salaam, salaam (x2) Salaam, salaam (x2)

*Shalom= peace in Hebrew Salaam= peace in Arabic*

1. Table Displays