

Your personal

Visa

to attend

**UNITED NATIONS WORLD INTERFAITH
HARMONY WEEK**

January 31 - February 7, 2019



Sponsored by the Calgary Interfaith Council

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UNITED NATIONS WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK



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January 31 - February 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.



THE CITY OF
CALGARY

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.

United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week

February 1-7, 2019

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 I, 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 Alberta.

Honourable Rachel A. Notley, M.L.A.
Premier of Alberta

United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week

Schedule of Events: January 31-February 7, 2019

January 31
6:30-8:00pm

Opening Ceremony
City Hall Atrium

February 1-3

Calgary Houses of Worship devote sermons to theme of *Civility and Public Discourse*

February 5
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 or 403-255-8688.

February 7
6:00-8:00pm

Concluding Dinner & Celebration of Interfaith Harmony Week

Hosted by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (2021 17 Ave SW)
\$20 suggested donation. Please RSVP to
info@calgaryinterfaithcouncil.org or 403-255-8688.

February 12
4:30-6:00pm

My Story at Mount Royal University
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.
Room U111 (near recreation) - Mount Royal University
Contact Greg Veltman - Interfaith Coordinator at
gveltman@mtroyal.ca or 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.**

United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week

Opening Ceremony

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

O Canada

Cantor Russell Jayne

Procession of Faith Leaders

Welcome and Introduction of UN Interfaith Harmony Week

Imam Fayaz Tilly

Treaty 7 Acknowledgement

Chantal Chagnon, Indigenous Artist and Educator

Call to Prayer

Malik Ashraf (Muslim), May Cummings (Bah'ai),
Rev. Wallace Bornhuse (Lutheran)

Greetings & Calgary Proclamation

Mayor Naheed Nenshi

Greetings & Alberta Proclamation

Anam Kazim, MLA, Calgary - Glenmore

Traditional Indigenous Song

Chantal Chagnon, Indigenous Artist and Educator

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

Closing Remarks and Invitation to Upcoming Programs

Imam Fayz Tilly

*Od Yavo Shalom**

Cantor Russell Jayne

*OD YAVO SHALOM ALEINU

Od yavo shalom aleinu

Od yavo shalom aleinu, ve'al kulam (x2)

Salaam, aleinu ve'al kol ha'olam,

Salaam, salaam (x2)

Shalom=peace in Hebrew

Salaam=peace in Arabic

PEACE WILL YET COME

Peace will yet come upon us

Peace will yet come upon us, and everyone

Salaam, upon us and upon the whole world

Salaam, salaam (x2)

Table Displays

Calgary Interfaith Council Invites You to Take the Civility Pledge

I Choose Civility: Listening, Caring, Engaging

Practicing Civility in the Home, Workplace, and Public Arena

The Calgary Interfaith Council functions on the principle that listening, caring, and engaging others with respect and humility are essential to building healthy and harmonious relationships among people of all faiths and backgrounds. Hospitality is central to all religious and ethnic traditions. Civility is the most basic ingredient in hospitality. As such it is the virtue that sustains a pluralistic society. Civility makes it safe for us to live together and learn to celebrate our differences so that we may experience the benefits of diversity.

We invite you sign the CIC Civility Pledge and be a force for enhancing our society. Please sign the pledge below and take your place among women, men and children who are committed to restoring civility to personal and public discourse.

The CIC Civility Pledge

1. I pledge to embrace the principle that all people are created equal and that each person possesses inherent dignity and goodness.
2. I pledge to encourage genuine dialogue with people who identify as minorities in order to enhance community inclusiveness.
3. I pledge to prioritize relationships over ideologies by striving to appreciate people whose ideas I may disagree with.
4. I pledge to respect others' experiences as true and valid for them and seek to come to new understandings through honest conversations.
5. I pledge to renounce stereotyping and prejudices, including those based on race, ethnicity, religion, sex or gender, and ability.
6. I pledge to enhance my capacity for empathy and compassion by living in the present moment and letting go resentments that derive from my personal history and my cultural memory.
7. I pledge to engage people in an open and neighborly spirit, sharing their joys and sorrows, and caring about their human problems and concerns.
8. I pledge to impart my views with honesty and sincerity on the basis of mutual trust without compromising my faith or principles.
9. I pledge to engage persons of all religions in order to accord them freedom and human rights.
10. I pledge to encourage others to engage in similar efforts to bring civility and compassion in their daily conversations in the home, workplace, and public arena.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Yes No *I consent to having my name included in the publication of the Civility Pledge.*