

Edmonton
Interfaith Centre
for Education & Action

ANNUAL REPORT

2023/24





New Location for the Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education & Action
Robertson-Wesley United Church 10209 - 123 St. NW Edmonton. AB T5N 1N3

IN MEMORIAM

We lost several members in the last year:

Joanne Dunn (and her husband Rev. Terry) have been members since at least 2005, both were actively involved until Joanne suffered several strokes. We offer our condolences to Terry and their family.

John Armstrong became a member in 2010 and attended many December Open Houses and Lunch & Learns, including one he presented. In the last few years mobility issues restricted his activities, we are grateful for the generous bequest in his will.

Jasvant Mehta – JV became our first Jain board member in 1997, we offer our condolences to Asmita and family.

Prof. Alison Scott - Prelorentzos was a member from 2005 until we lost touch due to ill health. Until then she was a regular at L & L and a very generous supporter.

OUR VISION

The Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action is recognized as a vital organization that addresses faith issues locally, nationally, and globally. We model a solidarity that embraces both the diversity and commonality of faith groups.

OUR MISSION

The Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action promotes peace and facilitates interfaith solidarity among our members, and our local, national, and global communities through educational programs, social action, and modelling respectful pluralism.



ABOUT US

The Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education & Action was founded in December 1995 to promote respect, friendship, harmony and interfaith solidarity between people of various faiths. Our vision is as broad as our membership; people of faith (and of no faith but abundant good will) have something to say and a role to play in all matters pertaining to making our world a more just and humane one.

Our actual incorporation became official on March 19, 1996 so we are formally 28 years old. Survival is hard for small not-for-profit societies and we are proud of the support of both individuals and organizations. We grew out of a few local initiatives such as the “Edmonton Inter-Faith Group” in 1987. That is not so long ago and we have come far; the sort of dialogues and public prayer services with which many of our founders were involved years ago were a novelty at the time and we are pleased and proud that, due in part to our work, they have become much more common. We will continue to promote religious literacy and look forward to a time when the embrace of difference and recognition of it as a strength will be taken for granted.

Our programs are designed to help people live together as good neighbors and we have lay and clergy members from many different religions with representatives of a dozen on the board and in our membership. We have implemented a wide variety of projects, large and small, from an hour long to four full days, local and international. All have brought people together to discuss critical issues facing us all. These include lectures, prayer services, dialogues and presentations; the Centre also works to raise awareness about local and global prejudice and to model a non-discriminatory lifestyle. On an ongoing basis we provide speakers, addressing the diversity of religious expressions found in the community. The Centre facilitates visits to houses of worship both for children and adults and coordinates interfaith prayer services throughout the year. We have hosted the North American Interfaith Network (NAIN) Connect conference twice, presented workshops both locally and internationally at every NAIN Connect for over twenty years, and at five Parliaments of the World’s Religions (PWR). It is incredibly inspiring to be part of 10,000 people gathered together to make the world better, more compassionate, with more understanding of each other. Several of our members attended in Chicago last August, a return to the setting of the first one in 1893.

We are proud of our partnership with the City of Edmonton. Since 2006 we have had a permanent, changing display at City Hall called “Celebrating our Faiths”. We have also implemented or created material such as the two peace posters created by local graphic designers, a booklet, “Seeking Peace...Visions of Peace from Twelve Faith Traditions”, the “Walking Together” curriculum, and the “Faith in the Classroom” component of the “Safe and Caring Schools” booklets used by the Alberta Teachers Association. The Edmonton Interfaith Centre looks forward to continuing to serve the community through the two arms of education and action.

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2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

JUNE 5, 2024 - HELD AT kihcihkaw aski (THIS PLACE IS SACRED) 14141 FOX DRIVE, EDMONTON

- ▶ Welcome & Tour of Site with Lewis Cardinal, Project Manager
- ▶ Land Acknowledgment – Guy Blood
- ▶ Approval of Agenda
- ▶ Approval of Minutes of last AGM - June 14 , 2023
- ▶ President's Report
- ▶ Executive Director's Report
- ▶ Treasurer's Report and Year End Financial Statements
- ▶ Committee Reports
 - Building Bridges Concert
 - Celebrating Our Faiths
 - Edmonton Interfaith Housing Society
 - Faith Spaces/Safe Spaces
 - Gender Based Violence
 - Ignite Change
 - Lunch & Learn
 - Membership
 - United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination - March 21
 - United Nations International Day of Peace - Sept. 21
 - World Interfaith Harmony Week

Nominations and Election of Members to the Board for a two-year term:

The following members were elected or re-elected last year (June 2023) and are willing to serve another year: **Audrey Brooks, Jeremiah Ellis, Michael Frishkopf, Surinder Singh Hoonjan, Kathie Reith, Manish Shah, Gary Simpson, Karnail Singh & Rebecca Wright.**

The following members are completing the second year of a term and are willing to serve another two years: **Gail Allan, Guy Blood, Avau Fast, Shiraz Kanji, Nasim Kherani, Virginia Sharek and Suzanne Sauve.**

Stepping away from the board after many years of exemplary service are Jagjeet Bhardwaj and Karen Gall. Karen is moving to Ottawa to be closer to her daughters and twin grand - daughters. **Thank you Jagjeet and Karen for your valuable contributions over many years. We are grateful you will continue to be connected to us as Honorary Board Members, joining Rev. Dr. Rob Hankinson and Rev. Dr. Don Mayne.**

We've missed our Past – President Farah Jamil since she moved and are pleased that she will continue to be connected as our liaison with the Calgary Interfaith Council.

Election of Officers:

President – *Gail Allan*

Vice – President – *Jeremiah Ellis*

Secretary – *Gary Simpson*

Treasurer – *Nasim Kherani*

Past - President – *Farah Jamil*

Any New Business

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 14, 2023 - HELD AT MCDUGALL UNITED CHURCH, 10086 MACDONALD DRIVE

Present: *Gail Allan, Jagjeet Bhardwaj, Guy Blood, Larry Derkach, Jeremiah Ellis, Karen Farkas, Avau Fast, Michael Frishkopf, Karen Gall, Len Gierach, Farah Jamil, Shiraz Kanji, Kehinde Olabimtan, Netta Phillet, Kathie Reith, Virginia Sharek, Shaykh Sheikh, Gary Simpson, Larry, Margery, Paul & Rebecca Wright.*

Non-Members Present: *McKenzie Fleming and City Councilor Michael Janz who was welcomed and said reach out to him or any councilor for assistance.*

Called to order at 7:30; Devotional was given by Rev. Audrey Brooks.

Approval of Agenda moved by Kathie, seconded by Gail. passed.

Approval of Minutes of last AGM, June 1st , 2022 moved by Karen F., seconded by Larry, passed.

President's Report – Farah's written report is in the Contents, she added that due to her move to Calgary in March she is stepping down, said it has been an honour to serve an organization that welcomes everyone, A to Z, and shares her passion for conversation, not conversion.

Executive Director's Report - in addition to her written report **Netta** said she loves her job.

Treasurer's Report and Year End Financial Statements - in the treasurer's absence **Farah** noted supporters.

► **Committee Report** (all are in the report and committee chairs were available for questions)

- Capital Region Interfaith Housing Initiative
- Celebrating Our Faiths
- Gender Based Violence
- Genocide Memorial Service Invitation – July 10, 2022
- Lunch and Learn
- Membership
- North American Interfaith Network Connect
- United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination - March 21
- United Nations International Day of Peace - September 21
- World Interfaith Harmony Week

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2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)

JUNE 14, 2023 - HELD AT MCDOUGALL UNITED CHURCH, 10086 MACDONALD DRIVE

Leaving the Board are Eileen Bell and Lewis Cardinal, we thank them for their service.

We continue to value the contributions of our Honorary Board Members: Rev. Dr. Rob Hankinson, Rev. Dr. Don Mayne and JV Mehta.

Election of Officers:

President –Gail was nominated as new President due to Farah leaving the position.

Vice – President – open

Treasurer – Nasim Kherani

Past - President – Guy Blood

Welcome new Board Members **Jeremiah Ellis, Michael Frishkopf, Surinder Singh Hoonjan, Gary Simpson**. Jeremiah, Michael and Gary were present and introduced themselves.

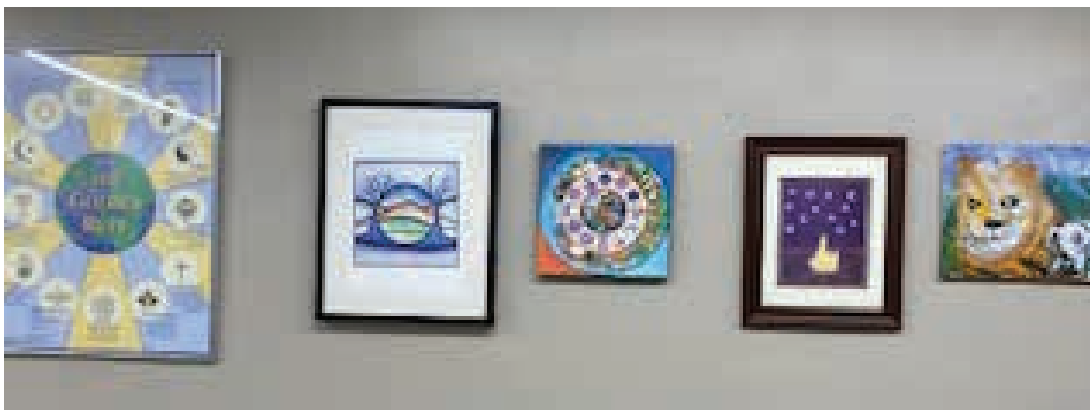
Nomination of new board and executive moved by Guy, seconded by Shiraz, passed.

Any New Business – none

Adjourned at 8:45.

Program: McDougall United Church (McDUC) and the Muslim Association of Canada (MAC) are sharing their worship space, host presenters were Larry Derkach and Yasin Cetin.

Yasin said MAC has been looking for a downtown location for years. The McDUC sanctuary has wonderful acoustics, the Koran is meant to be chanted and the space does justice to that. They moved in during Ramadan 2022. MAC is a grassroots organization with 18 mosques and 12 schools across Canada. McDUC is an older building with a dwindling congregation and MAC can bring new energy. Joint services and projects are being planned, movies and films. It is the beginning of a journey of sharing, leaning together, demystifying both religions and benefitting the surrounding community as well.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2023-2024

GAIL ALLAN

Challenging is the first word that springs to mind when thinking of the 2023-2024 program year. And yet there were also exciting and hopeful moments of collaboration, creativity and community.

We began at the annual meeting by hearing from McDougall United Church and MAC (Muslim Association of Canada) at McDougall how two faith communities could put interfaith into practice by sharing space and finding ways to join in community outreach. We welcomed new board members and reaffirmed our commitment to work toward a more harmonious and respectful community in Edmonton, through education and action aimed at building deep understanding across lines of difference.

As planning for fall programming was beginning, including regular programs such as Lunch and Learn, annual events including UN Day for Peace, and special celebrations marking the 75th anniversary of the UN Declaration of Human Rights, we received news that the Ashbourne, home of our office since 1998, had been sold. The board entered into what we would need in a new location, and began to consider possible options. The challenges presented by this event intensified in January when extreme cold resulted in a flood, and the need to find new accommodation became urgent. Fortunately, the network of friends built up over the years had good suggestions, and from those we have found an excellent new space at Robertson Wesley United Church. We are grateful to board members, friends in Garneau United Church, and other friends who helped with sorting, packing, moving and moral support through this process.

These challenges did not diminish the quality of our programs and I commend the hard work of Executive Director, Netta Phillet, and members of the board for ensuring that the work continued with little disruption. Highlights included active participation in the John Humphrey Centre's Ignite Change Convention, with our annual Genocide Memorial Service integrated into the program; a full and varied slate of events for World Interfaith Harmony Week, including a lively and inspiring concert, poetry shared, learning opportunities, and encouragement to action on racial justice; and bringing the annual commemoration of the UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination into the university community. Also important was our witness for diversity, inclusion, justice and peace in relation to the rights of children to claim their gender identity, action around housing and homelessness, and in response to the Hamas attacks and war in Gaza.

Another highlight of this work is the many opportunities for partnership in seeking justice and peace in our community and world. This year has included work with the Indo-Canadian Women's Association; John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights; Faith Spaces| Safe Spaces Committee; Edmonton Stroll of Poets; St. Stephen's College; University of Alberta and City of Edmonton, as well as support from numerous local faith communities. These relationships are vital for building together the movement for transformation toward a world of harmony, respect and justice.

This year has shown us that the need for interfaith dialogue, education and action is more urgent than ever. All over the world, and within our own communities in Canada, we see how fear, insecurity and a desire for power in the context of difference divides communities and

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2023-2024 (CONTINUED) GAIL ALLAN

leads to oppression and violence. Now more than ever we are called to work together across lines of faith and ideology to find non-violent means to end conflict and create peace with justice in the lands we share. Let us continue to listen deeply and learn from each other; to engage in prayer and action together; and to offer a voice for compassion and respect in our community, both in our programming and in our public presence.

It has been an honour to serve as president this year. In the coming months there will be opportunities to celebrate our work in the context of a welcome to our new space. I hope to see you there, and during the various activities and events that will take place in the year to come.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT NETTA PHILLET

I am proud to be part of this amazing not for profit society that has accomplished so much in the 28 years since our incorporation.

Garneau United Assisted Living Place (GUALP) had been our home since it opened in 1998 (it is pictured on the front of this report). On Sept. 1st the news that the building had been sold was a shock for us as well as the residents and staff, and Garneau Church

(GUC) of course. We all faced significant challenges that rivalled COVID for the disruption, loss and sorrow felt by us all. Jumping ahead to the good news, on May 1st we became tenants of Robertson Wesley United Church (RWUC). We didn't want a fresh start in a new location but fate has handed it to us. A central site in a busy and vibrant church offers possibilities for increased community involvement. And it is 3 blocks from my house (and the same age)! We have one room with less space than in the two we had in GUALP and are still making decisions about what can be kept.

Gail has written about the actual move in her President's Report so I'll refer mainly to how work in our office was affected. From the end of November GUALP was no longer being cleaned, the air was bad and some days there was not enough water to fill the toilet tanks!

The new landlord did give us a few months to move but then two floods made it necessary for us to leave in a bit of a rush and the time we thought we had to organize, sort, cull and pack was suddenly gone. Decisions had to be made quickly, trips to the ReUse/Recycle Centre, Goodwill or any of the other choices being considered. The landlord generously moved everything to free storage except what I had taken to the temporary office set up in my basement.

Thanks to Audrey and Kathie for packing books and files and HUGE thanks to Gail for many hours of her valuable time, including helping on the last 2 chaotic days when final decisions had to be made. She has been an absolute rock through this ordeal while also going through the same process for her church but worse because they had many more difficult decisions to be made and much more to deal with. Not to mention their emotions because GUC isn't moving back. I

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) NETTA PHILLET

was equally relieved and sad. This month, June 2014, would have marked 18 years working there, more than a quarter of my life. I am still a bit geographically disoriented, for all that time I had 2 centres, home and office, from which my life radiated. Plus U of A adjacent parking, very handy.

Working from home has been awkward, our house is 111 years old and the basement is cold, we haven't spent much time there for decades since it was a kids' playroom. I brought only the files needed and set up minimal procedures needed for the short term and have not been fully productive.

As Gail wrote we have had a good year in spite of the stress and uncertainty for half of it. In early March, less than a week after leaving GUALP, we had a casino, I acted as chair and once again our board and members stepped up. Volunteering can be a team building exercise, how often do we spend 10 hours in a little room with each other? At one late night supper a board member and I talked more than we had in the 9 months since he joined. We need to find a way to get to know each other better and will hold a strategic planning session in the fall.

When possible I attend Edmonton & District Council of Churches meetings, often over a delicious lunch and including a tour of a beautiful worship space. In February I was able to facilitate this at my synagogue, Beth Shalom. Our rabbi gave a look into a Torah scroll and answered questions, and the potato knishes were a big hit! These and other meetings are good networking opportunities.

In addition to office administration much of the work I do is in support of our programs that are covered elsewhere in this report. And there have been fun events on my own time too, like the Indo -Canadian Women's 40th anniversary dinner in March. It was a lovely evening of tributes, music and dance; former board member Eileen Bell was the MC, and the Lt. Gov. and Mayor were gracious as always. The inaugural Dr. Zohra Husaini Award was given, she was on our board for many years. I was invited to be on the selection committee and the Centre was recognized as a partner. Two women were awarded jointly for their work on issues concerning prostitution; one of them, Kathy King, was our L & L speaker in March 2022.

My job has "perks" too, like being invited again to attend the Lt. Gov.'s Iftar dinner with several other board members. It is gratifying to have our work recognized.

Promoting the embrace of diversity, religious literacy and pluralism have never been more important. There is a place for everyone to be involved in our efforts to create and maintain a more just, humane world. As you'll know when we announce the 2024 - 2025 nominations, two of our long-standing board members are stepping away: I will miss their wise council and vast experience. Good news is that two newer board members are moving into the executive.

We are a membership organization, \$25 a year, or \$250 for a Life Membership (tax receiptable). Please join us!

TREASURER'S REPORT NASIM KHERANI

We are grateful for the support received from the Northern Spirit Regional Council of the United Church, our largest faith-based donor, and the Edmonton Community Investment Operating Grant, our largest grantor. We would also like to thank the Edmonton Community Foundation, Eckankar Canada and Beth Shalom Synagogue plus many individual donors. Thanks as well to board members Jeremiah Ellis and Larry Derkach for their internal review of the year end statements, as per our bylaws.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AUDIT STATEMENT

Fiscal Year 2023 - 2024

To the Members of the Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education & Action:

The Board of the Edmonton Interfaith Centre has chosen Larry Derkach and Jeremiah Ellis to review the 2023 - 2024 Financial Statements.

Accordingly they have reviewed the TD Canada Trust records, cheques, deposits and bank statements for two accounts:

Operating Account # 0873 - 5203980 and

Casino Account # 0873 - 5223027.

We believe that the "Income & Expenses" statements and the "Balance Sheet" accurately represent the financial position of the Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action on March 31st, 2024.

In common with other membership organizations, we could only verify income as deposited.


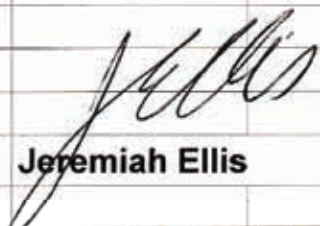
Signed:

Larry Derkach


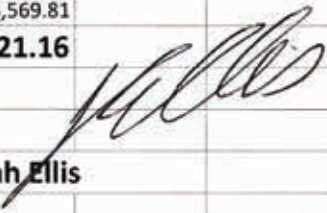
Jeremiah Ellis



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

EDMONTON INTERFAITH CENTRE Income & Expense		
April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024 - Operating Account		
Income		
Northern Spirit Regional Council United Church	2,500.00	
Edmonton Community Foundation	1,238.00	
City of Edmonton Grant	1,709.00	
Eckankar Canada	1,000.00	
Beth Shalom Synagogue	250.00	
Membership Dues	1,600.00	
Sales Revenue (mostly calendars)	4,681.51	
Donations from Individuals	6,640.70	
Silent Auction	1,320.00	
Concert Tickets	414.00	
Total Income	\$21,353.21	
Expense		
Salary	26,472.03	(11 months)
Genocide Memorial, ICWA, Daughters Day	344.00	
Office	106.01	
Paypal Charges	93.29	
Bank Charges	33.97	
Print Celebrate Posters	62.00	
Concert	25.00	
Total Expense	\$27,136.30	
Net Ordinary Income (deficit)	-\$5,783.09	
Signed:		
 		
Larry Derkach	Jeremiah Ellis	
Dated June 3, 2024		

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

EDMONTON INTERFAITH CENTRE - CASINO ACCOUNT			
INCOME & EXPENSE - April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024		CREDITS	DEBITS
Balance Forward		46,052.02	
CASINO 2024 - ADVISORS			2256.45
CASINO TAXI			10.97
FROM AGLC		2,238.95	
RENT			14210.30
DONATIONS (JHCPHR, FS/SS, U of A Music)			9000.00
INSURANCE - (D & O plus Office & Public Liability)			2108.00
PWR (conference travel)			9596.00
OFFICE (SUPPLIES)			1164.99
(WEBMASTER)			1288.80
(SHAW & TELUS)			1705.22
(POSTAGE & PACKING SUPPLIES)			259.42
(FORMAT ANNUAL REPORT)			525.00
(COMPUTER MAINTENANCE)			237.50
(ZOOM ACCOUNT FOR ONE YEAR)			210.00
(PRINT ANNUAL REPORT)			158.96
(FORWARDING MAIL & RENT POST BOX)			271.42
PROGRAMS (2 SPEAKERS LUNCH & LEARN)			400.00
(RENT PA FOR UN Day of Peace & IDERD print programs)			45.78
(CONCERTS 2023 & 2024)			2059.27
BANK CHARGES			121.00
TOTALS		\$48,290.97	\$43,569.81
Balance Forward April 1, 2023	\$46,052.02		
Income	\$2,238.95		
Expenses	\$43,569.81		
BANK BALANCE MARCH 31, 2024	\$4,721.16		
			
Larry Derkach		Jeremiah Ellis	
June 3, 2024			

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

EDMONTON INTERFAITH CENTRE BALANCE SHEET MARCH 31st, 2024


ASSETS

TD Bank Regular Account	29,750.42
TD Bank Casino Account	4,721.16
TOTAL ASSETS	\$34,471.58

EQUITY

Restricted Funds	4,721.16
Unrestricted Net Assets	36,243.90
Net Income	-5,783.09
GST	-710.39
TOTAL EQUITY	\$34,471.58

Reviewed and Approved by



Larry Derkach
June 3rd, 2024



Jeremiah Ellis

BUILDING BRIDGES AMONG FAITH TRADITIONS CONCERT

AUDREY BROOKS

Our annual Building Bridges Among Faith Traditions concert was held on February 4 in the Unitarian Church. We had four fabulous acts: Carrie Day; Roya, Roshan & Remy; Maigan van der Giessen & Kirsten Elliot and for the second year, Marianela Adasme. As well a young Ukrainian refugee played piano, he was given a cheque for \$25 to encourage him in future studies; the cheque hasn't been deposited yet, perhaps he's framed it! Although it isn't strictly seen as a fund-raiser it is the one time a year we solicit donations. Former supporters were contacted and thanked in the program. A silent auction adds to the fun and the proceeds.

CELEBRATING OUR FAITHS

NETTA PHILLET



Since 2006 we have partnered with the city in a program called “Celebrating Our Faiths” (COF), a permanent display in City Hall which changes every month to feature a different religious tradition. Participation suffered when the building was closed for a year and a half and COF hasn't really recovered its momentum. In the last year the faiths and observances showcased have been Islamic History Month, Passover, Eckankar, Jain, Unitarian Universalism and Zoroastrianism. Going through our archives we found enough articles to mount one titled “Remember when the Edmonton Journal had a Religion Page?”

It is difficult to keep displays moving in and out of city hall every month, and due to a shooting incident this spring the building was closed again. The staff person who was our contact is on indefinite leave and our champion city chaplain John Dowds is gone. On April 26th I was to meet with 2 city staffers, both were ill, a young man named Duncan came who has been with the city for 10 days! We had a long coffee, I told him the history of COF, how great are the possibilities of what it could be and how disappointing the last few years have been.

EDMONTON INTERFAITH HOUSING SOCIETY

GAIL ALLAN & AUDREY BROOKS



The Edmonton Interfaith Housing Society has been renamed and we are proud to have been involved since its inception in 2010. Revitalization and restructuring are taking place and we are committed to doing what we can to continue to be part of the solution. Last November we attended a half day event with informative presentations on affordable housing, co-ops and the work of the Edmonton Coalition on Housing & Homelessness which we have since joined.

On April 18th we were in City Hall for the Interfaith Housing Plenary; Lewis Cardinal gave us “A Vision of Home - More than a Place to Sleep: Life, Love & Relationships”. He shared his personal experience of homelessness in Edmonton in the 1970s, highlighting the need to understand the complexities of poverty to spur community action. Attendees of the event developed calls to action, including restricting housing as an investment, launching an education campaign on homelessness, and exploring tiny homes and transitional housing solutions.

Housing is everyone’s concern and we need ALL our communities to step up so that “interfaith” is more than just a word.

FAITH SPACES / SAFE SPACES GAIL ALLAN

Faith Spaces | Safe Spaces began as a grassroots partnership between Christians and Muslims looking to support each other in addressing anti-black racism within our respective faith communities. The committee has since expanded to include a wider range of faith communities and interfaith organizations. Gail Allan has been participating in the steering committee on behalf of the Edmonton Interfaith Centre; we were also able to support the committee in the successful application for a Government of Alberta anti-racism grant.

Faith Spaces | Safe Spaces envisions a city where all faith spaces are safe spaces for Black people of faith and all Indigenous and people of colour who enter. The committee is engaging Edmontonians in dialogues and workshops in order to raise awareness of anti-black racism within our respective faith communities and help contribute to and shape anti-racist policies and practices within our city's faith spaces.

In February the committee held an event offering opportunities to reflect on our visions of inclusive community and barriers created by the racism that some of our community members experience within our faith spaces. Insightful panel presentations, prayer, music and conversation contributed to a spirit of learning and commitment to transformation. The event was a good way to close World Interfaith Harmony Week in Edmonton. The next Faith Spaces | Safe Spaces event is a virtual anti-racism workshop taking place June 9, designed to equip participants with tools and strategies to address racism within faith communities. It will introduce an Anti-Racism Toolkit created by the Victoria Multifaith Society. The Interfaith Centre has contributed to these events with participation and financial support; we encourage members to take advantage of these opportunities for education and action toward racial justice in our faith communities.



GENDER BASED VIOLENCE JAGJEET BHARDWAJ

On November 30th, 2023, the Edmonton Interfaith Centre partnered with the Indo-Canadian Women's Association to highlight Domestic Violence Awareness month.

Members and interested parties gathered to hear Sarah Jensen, educator for the Today Centre. She spoke about her organization which helps women in need combat domestic violence. She also raised important points about what to look for if you know someone in this situation and described the different types of gender-based violence that go on in society.

Many participants who attended the session donated socks and underwear for women and children, diapers and feminine hygiene products. These items went a long way to help the families and were greatly appreciated by The Today Centre.



IGNITE CHANGE AUDREY BROOKS

The John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights (JHC), under Executive Director Renee Vaugeois, sponsored the “Ignite Change Global Convention”, held in Edmonton from December 1 to 10, 2023 at various locations in the city. It marked the 75 anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UNUDHR).

The goal of this convention was to bring forward the many ways that the UNUDHR is both celebrated and violated in the everyday lives of world citizens. Over 10 days there were grounding prayers, keynote speakers and workshops to set the intention of solidarity, unity and peace in human endeavours, locally, nationally, and for world - compliance with the UNUDHR.

On December 8th, the 15th Annual Genocide Memorial, held at Shiloh Baptist Church, was sponsored by the Edmonton Interfaith Centre, JHC and the Shiloh Centre for Multicultural Roots, as part of the “Ignite Change,” Convocation on Human Rights.

One of the elements of the convention was to draw attention to Stanton's 10 Stages of Genocide, leading to crimes against humanity. They are: **classification; symbolization; discrimination; dehumanization; organization; polarization; preparation; persecution; extermination; denial.**

LUNCH & LEARN NETTA PHILLET

One of our most popular programs, a monthly “Lunch & Learn”, which pivoted to Zoom for almost 2 years, has continued in a “hybrid” format. As noted before many prefer the convenience of joining from home or work or far away. With all our events this has become a mixed blessing: greater and easier attendance vs. the energy created by actually being together, and a more natural conversation.

Speakers and topics in the last year were:

- Farah Jamil sharing her findings on Neurodiversity & ADHD through a Muslim lens
- Ibrahim Cin spoke about his work as a Muslim chaplain-in-training with the Armed Forces
- Lee Nicoll Kramer recreated the Oberammergau Passion Play
- Karen Farkas & Netta Phillet gave their presentation on prejudice and antisemitism from the Parliament of World Religions in Chicago
- Firdosh Mehta’s topic was “Non-Persian & Biblical Accounts of Two Great Persian Kings”
- Inas Al Ashqar on “Exploring the Profound through Scriptural Reasoning: an Interfaith Conversation”

We are very fortunate to have a wide diversity of expert speakers willing to share their knowledge.

Lunch and Learn 2/7/2024 - Exploring the Profound through Scriptural Reasoning:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q_ZslwRuJMA

MEMBERSHIP NETTA PHILLET

We are pleased to have members from at least a dozen different religious traditions and they fall into 3 categories: Member, Life Member, and Organizational Member. Currently, we have 130 members of whom 44 are “Lifers”, generous supporters who have paid ten times the annual dues of \$25. We are able to offer a tax receipt for this. Our website has a membership page and we accept cheques, e-transfers and Paypal.

UN INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (IDERD) MICHAEL FRISHKOPF



The Edmonton Interfaith Centre's 2024 commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (IDERD) took place on March 21, in the Student Lounge of the Old Arts building at the University of Alberta. This annual event marks the 1960 police massacre in Sharpeville, South Africa, when 69 unarmed protesters against apartheid "pass laws" were killed, and hundreds of others injured. In 1966 the UN General Assembly proclaimed March 21st the IDERD. The Interfaith Centre grew out of the first commemoration in the early 1990s. Following introductory remarks by Michael Frishkopf and a musical prayer -- "SHANTI" -- performed by the Edmonton Transcultural Orchestra, Frishkopf introduced the keynote speaker: artist, scholar, and community activist extraordinaire Shuel-let-qua Q:olosoet (aka Cynthia Jim), who inspired the room with her life stories, dedication to global peace, and passion for music, culminating in a performance on Indigenous flute. Her talk was followed by speakers Stephanie Otieno, who reviewed the interfaith anti-racism project "Faith Spaces | Safe Spaces", and Professor Andy Knight, who introduced a new online micro-course, "Black Canadians: History, Presence and Anti-Racist Futures", produced under his direction. The event concluded with additional performances from the Transcultural Orchestra, including musicians Kim Friesen, Michael Frishkopf, hozan Hashempour, Lucinda Johnston, Ziyad Marcus, Uthpala Herath Mudiyansele, Shruti Nair, and Sukhmani Kaur Saggu.



UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE AUDREY BROOKS

Our annual observance of the UN Day of Peace was again held on the beautiful grounds of Government House on Sept. 21st last year. After a welcome from Rev. Audrey Brooks, Guy Blood offered some words about Treaty 6 and a Baha'i prayer. EIC board president Gail Allan brought greetings, the Raging Grannies and Paula Kirman sang. The keynote speaker was Renee Vaugeois, Executive Director of the John Humphrey Centre for Human Rights, giving a preview of their upcoming "Ignite Change - 75th Anniversary of the UN Declaration of Human Rights".

WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK GAIL ALLAN

In 2012 the United Nations declared the first week of February as World Interfaith Harmony Week. This year's events were:

- Sunday, February 4th - **"Building Bridges Among Faith Traditions Concert"**
- Monday Feb. 5th at the Upper Crust Café: **"Spirituality - Poetic Perspective"**, participants brought their work of inspired art to share.
- Wednesday, February 7th - **"Exploring the Profound through Scriptural Reasoning: an Interfaith Conversation"** with Inas Al Ashqar, D. Min candidate, a hybrid zoom
- Saturday, February 10th - **"Karma & Reincarnation"** a discussion at the Eckankar Centre
- Sunday, February 11th **"Faith Spaces | Safe Spaces - Together in Faith: Confronting Racism"**, Prayer, Music, Panel Discussion - Boyle Street Plaza

BOARD MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Gail Allan is a member of the United Church of Canada who has worked for many years on issues of global and social justice; she lived in Edmonton until 1996, and has recently returned for “semi-retirement.” From 2004-2020 she was Coordinator for Ecumenical, Interchurch and Interfaith Relations in The United Church of Canada, representing the church in national and international ecumenical and interfaith groups, and supporting people engaged in dialogue and action in their local communities. She is an active participant in the North American Interfaith Network and Canadian Interfaith Conversation. From 2014-2020 she was co-chair of the National Muslim Christian Liaison Committee. She has a doctorate in Ethics from Emmanuel College of the Toronto School of Theology, with a focus on feminist theological and social ethics. At present she is an associate faculty member at St. Stephen’s College, Edmonton and a member of Garneau United Church.

Jagjeet Bhardwaj is a retired scientist who now devotes her life to full-time volunteer work. For almost 40 years she has volunteered for many organizations including the Girl Guides of Canada, Red Cross Society, the Marian Centre and the Millwoods Welcome Centre for Newcomers. Mrs. Bhardwaj was also a member of the Provincial Court Nominating Committee of Alberta. She is a recipient of the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Medal as well as the Centennial Medal, both from the Province of Alberta in recognition of her multifaceted volunteer work. She has also been honoured by the Indo-Canadian Women’s Association, with whom she has served as president and is currently treasurer for a third term. She also edited several publications for them. She has been nominated for the YWCA Tribute to Women of Distinction Award and is a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal.

Guy W. Blood, M.Sc., P.Eng., has been a member of the Baha’i Faith since 1979. This choice was made after an extensive search of all possibilities of committing to a spiritual path within a religious community. He has been interested in religious harmony for many years. He started a demonstration of that interest by producing a weekly community television show in the early 80’s, titled Unity in Religion. People from all faith traditions were interviewed using questions that focused on the similarities amongst religious teachings rather than on the differences. That half hour weekly TV show ran for 3 years on local cable channel 10. Guy has been an active supporter of the Edmonton Interfaith Centre for many years and is currently a Past President. He has attended the last three Parliament of the World’s Religions events in Salt Lake City, Toronto, and Chicago. In his professional life, Guy has functioned as a structural engineer since graduating in 1970 from the University of Calgary with a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering. Work included designing bridge and building structural components, providing educational seminars on cement and concrete, teaching and management at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, and most recently, independent structural engineering consulting, before retiring in 2018. He has held leadership positions with the United Nations Association in Canada, several condominium boards, the Edmonton Soaring Club and Baha’i Administration. Hobbies have included: golf, curling, photography, small airplanes and gliders. His wife is Joan Blood.

BOARD MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Rev. Audrey Brooks, (M. ED.; M. Div.) is a retired chaplain with the Unitarian Church of Edmonton. For many years she facilitated the Interfaith Centre's annual concert as well as our UN International Day of Peace celebrations, the UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination commemorations and the Genocide Memorial Services. She also serves on the board of the Interfaith Housing Society which works to end homelessness in Edmonton. Audrey is involved with the Missing and Murdered Women and Girls marches; served on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission as part of the University of Alberta Interfaith Chaplain's Association; is a founding member of the U of Alberta Pride Alumni Association; and is a Raging Granny. She has received three awards for her social justice work in the larger community. And she is the mother of 5, grandmother of 13, great grandmother of 13, and now a great great grandmother.

Jeremiah Ellis is an advocate for coming together in spite of our differences and the power of sport for social good. A lifelong athlete, he currently works part-time for Free Play for Kids while completing the final stages of a Master of Theological Studies at St. Stephen's College. During his Political Science degree at the University of Alberta, he co-created and lead a social media campaign called the World Mosaic Project that was supported by youth and leaders around Canada and the world—including Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Jeremiah also served two terms with the Canadian Commission for UNESCO's Youth Advisory Group and was selected as a delegate for the 10th UNESCO Youth Forum in Paris, France. He currently serves on the advisory committee for CCUNESCO's Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities. He also has a wide background in public speaking and has spoken at events such as WE Day, TEDx, the Canadian Human Rights Commission's Beyond Labels Symposium, and various panels and events within the UNESCO network and has also been engaged in community work with organizations and initiatives such as Apathy is Boring, GoPlay!, Amplify Youth Voices, KidSport, Canadian Hockey Enterprises, Inner City Rec, and Campus Community & Recreation. Jeremiah was also featured in two documentaries: The New Voice of Change: Jeremiah Ellis and Louder: Amplifying Youth Voices in Activism.

Avau Fast was born in Baluchistan, a beautiful region north west of India, during the British colonial period. She grew up in an area replete with different ethnicities. Later in India no matter where she lived there were churches, temples, synagogues and mosques around the railway colony where she lived. Before attending boarding school she lived with her aunt, and every morning as they walked to pick up fresh vegetables from the market, at each place of worship on the way, they would stop to pray. She recalls that she really did not mind as this gave her a few seconds to rest her weary feet. Avau looks upon India as an old multicultural country and Canada as a new one. As a born Zoroastrian she is proud to be a part of the Canadian mosaic; studying and working among different faiths and cultures has always been her interest in life.

Michael Frishkopf, PhD (frishkopf.org) is Professor of Music and Director of the Canadian Centre for Ethnomusicology at the University of Alberta. Centering on the Middle East and Africa, his research includes Music and Islam, Immigration, Development, Global Health, Architecture, Aesthetics, Sound and Wellbeing, Virtual Reality, AI and Machine Learning, and Social Network Analysis. Recent publications include "The Sonorous Audible Mosque", in Mosque: Approaches to Art and Architecture (2024); "Localized Timbres and Tonalities of Qur'ānic Recitation: From Africa to Indonesia", Journal of Islamic and Muslim Studies 8:1 (2023); and

BOARD MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

“Music for Global Human Development: Participatory Action Research for Health and Wellbeing”, MUSICultures 49 (2022). He is co-editor of Music, Sound, and Architecture in Islam (2018) and two forthcoming books, Resisting the Dehumanization of Refugees (2024), and Tarab: Music, Ecstasy, Emotion, and Performance (2025). He is currently focused on an AI soundscape project for student mental health, supported by United Way. He is also a performer and composer and has led the U of A’s Middle Eastern and North African Music Ensemble since 2004.

Karen Gall has served on the Edmonton Interfaith Centre board since 2009; she is President of the Canadian Multicultural Education Foundation (CMEF) where, for over a decade, she served as Chair of the annual CMEF Harmony Brunch commemorating the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Karen is also a founding member of the St. Albert Interfaith Connections, an organization dedicated to providing an interfaith presence in that community. At her synagogue, Temple Beth Ora, Karen served as a lay leader for Shabbat and festival services, a member of the Ritual Committee, a founding member of the Chavurat HaShir choir and as a cantorial soloist. She worked with the LGBTQ community to support and help organize both the annual Edmonton Interfaith Pride Service as well as the Pride Shabbat service at her synagogue. Karen focuses her time on successfully building bridges, using her appreciation and awareness of the value of multiculturalism and interfaith connections while welcoming opportunities to share her Jewish values and traditions with students of all ages and members of the broader community. She has received recognition for her dedication and work advocating for interfaith, multicultural and human rights issues including a St. Albert International Women’s Day Award, a Daughter of the Year Award and the Queen Elizabeth II’s Platinum Jubilee Medal in recognition of her valuable contribution to the province.

Rev. Dr. Rob Hankinson has been associated with the EIC since witnessing the signatures of the Centre’s founding board members to the Alberta Societies Act application, December 1995. Since then he has held a number of positions on the Centre’s board and is now happy to be an honorary member. In December 2012 Rob retired from 40 years ministry with the United Church of Canada. On the North American Interfaith Network (NAIN) he serves as a member of the newly formed NAIN Council. In August 2019 Rob relocated to Nova Scotia and is a member of the executive of the Wolfville Area Interchurch Council which is working towards hosting NAIN in 2025.

Surinder Singh Hoonjan

Farah Jamil is an Ivy League-educated Health Executive, a certified Leadership / Executive Coach, an Attention Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Life Coach, and the Founder of Muslim ADHDers and Interfaith ADHDers. She has combined her love of science and business to work in several sectors including: government, health region, non-profit and academia in Canada and the United States. Her work has ranged from briefing Canadian Ministers, US Senators and Ambassadors on strategic health policy issues to guest lecturing and coaching clients globally on how to be less passive and more proactive in their career / leadership and ADHD goals. As a woman of colour and a visible religious minority, Farah recognized the need to bring down barriers and build bridges within the realm of interfaith dialogue. She has volunteered for several interfaith boards, committees and organizations, including the American Muslim Health Professionals (AMHP), A Common Word Alberta – Christian Muslim Interfaith Dialogue, and more. As a proud

BOARD MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

member of the EICEA, Farah is committed to “help create a society which respects the richness of human diversity”.

Shiraz Kanji has retired from three different careers - professional engineer, Information Technology and most recently as financial planning consultant. He has worked in three countries and speaks five languages. Shiraz is passionate about public speaking and has spoken to a wide variety and sizes of audiences on different subjects including religion and Islam. He has been an active Toastmaster for over 30 years and has conducted many training seminars locally and overseas. He enjoys learning about different faith communities and participating in interfaith dialogue. Shiraz is an active volunteer, having served his Toastmasters district, his professional organizations, church and community organizations. He has also volunteered for the Provincial Government sponsored Board Development Program. His other interests include music, cinema and reading.

Nasim Kherani is a long-time volunteer having served extensively both within and outside the Muslim Ummah over the past 40 years. While serving as treasurer of the Edmonton Chapter of the Canadian Council of Muslim Women (CCMW), Nasim helped restore and find a new home for Edmonton’s first mosque at Fort Edmonton Park, Al Rashid Mosque. Following her service as president of the Edmonton chapter of CCMW and treasurer of the Western Canada Group of Soroptomist International, she returned to serve the Ummah by becoming director of the Edmonton Council of Muslim Communities chairing the Interfaith Portfolio. As the resource development coordinator for the Aga Khan University, she has coordinated more than five major fundraising drives aiding in the creation of an international-standard medical school, nursing school and sports centre in Karachi, Pakistan, and Nairobi, Kenya. Most recently, Nasim served as president of CCMW, Edmonton Chapter and also has been elected to be part of the CCMW National Board. In her professional life, Nasim completed accounting designations (FCCA, CGA, CPA) in both England and Canada. After working in a public practice in London, England, and then for more than a decade as Senior Financial and Management Auditor with the Alberta Social Services, Nasim switched focus to the health sector, managing and performing the accounting for a large dental office for over three decades. Using this experience, Nasim has spent the last seven years consulting for the Aga Khan University Nairobi on dental practice management and expansion as part of a larger public-private partnership. Nasim has completed further training to become a certified financial planner (CFP) and now operates a group of companies focused on investment and real estate development. She is a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal.

Rev. Dr. Don Mayne was born in Edmonton but took his schooling, university, and theological training in Saskatchewan and his master’s degree at Boston University School of Theology. His doctorate is an honorary degree from St. Stephen’s College. He was the founding President of the Interfaith Centre, serving for five years, then continued on the Board until he was appointed an honorary member in 2011. He served on the Board of the North American Interfaith Network and was President from 2000 to 2004. He also was a founding member of the No Room in the Inn Committee of the Edmonton and District Council of Churches. They have encouraged the congregations of the Council to donate to a different community agency each year and they have raised well over \$1 million.

BOARD MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Kathie Reith says that at a young age she was taught the value of being actively involved in the betterment of her community. She has served on many committees and boards, including the Soroptimist International Group which empowers women to make an impact on others' lives by financing their dreams. Other projects are an awareness campaign on the effect of human trafficking and "Welcome Home" which befriends newly housed participants who were previously homeless. She works for EPSB as an Educational Assistant.

Suzanne Sauvé was raised in Ottawa in a practicing French Canadian Catholic family. At university she found the Bahá'í Faith and learned about its prophet founder Bahá'u'lláh, gaining a greater love and appreciation of the status of all of God's Great Educators, these Manifestations of God, that include Jesus and his teachings she had grown up with. Suzanne has always been passionate about equality and was grateful to work for the Federal government with community groups, individuals and institutions helping remove barriers to equality and unity in diversity in our society. The federal department eventually became Canadian Heritage and the Women's Program, and at a certain point, Suzanne felt it was time for her to change careers. She returned to school for graduate studies and became a speech language pathologist. To this day, she continues to work in this fascinating field helping individuals overcome communication barriers, from aphasia to stuttering, find their voice, and even become proficient readers, despite dyslexia. Suzanne has been married to Jim Hoover for 36 years. Together, they enjoy walking around Edmonton's beautiful river valley, going to our great coffee shops, and visiting their two sons in Vancouver.

Manish Shah was born and raised in India and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Laboratory Technology. His academic background is complemented by his spiritual studies, having delved deeply into the Fundamentals and Science of Jainism. His work elucidates the principles of Jainism from a scientific perspective, making complex concepts accessible and understandable. Additionally, Manish has explored Vedic Hindu philosophy and Buddhism, focusing on the technical differences between these three major religions prevalent in South East Asia, particularly in India, Burma, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Sri Lanka. Manish's engagement with Jain philosophy emphasizes its profound connection to nature and the environment, highlighting its impact on all forms of life, including humans, animals, plants, and even nonliving matter. His volunteer efforts include fundraising for earthquake relief, organizing blood donation camps, and coordinating annual Republic Day functions in India. He has also demonstrated leadership as the captain of Gujarat University's intercollege cricket team for several years. In his professional and personal life, Manish is committed to mental health improvement, advocating for healthy food habits, and delivering public and motivational speeches. He actively promotes naturopathy, nonviolence, and the Jain lifestyle, alongside vegetarian food ideology, to foster a healthier human society and ensure environmental sustainability for future generations. Manish is also an avid motorcyclist, passionate about exploring Alberta's natural beauty and learning about religious diversity and different cultures. Additionally, he is working as a residential realtor in Alberta, focusing on Edmonton and surrounding areas. His dedication to multiculturalism and universal kinship aligns with the Vedic concept of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," embodying the belief that all of humanity is one undivided family. Key Activities and Interests: Spiritual Studies: Fundamentals and Science of Jainism, Vedic Hindu philosophy, Buddhism. Volunteer Work: Earthquake relief fundraising, blood donation camps, Republic Day event organization. Leadership: Captain of

BOARD MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Gujarat University's intercollege cricket team. Public Speaking: Mental health improvement, food habits, and motivational talks. Advocacy: Naturopathy, nonviolence, Jain lifestyle, vegetarian food ideology. Real Estate: Residential realtor in Alberta, specializing in Edmonton and surrounding areas. Personal Interests: Motorcycle riding, exploring natural beauty, learning about religious and cultural diversity. Objective: To contribute to a multicultural social organization by promoting spiritual and philosophical understanding, environmental sustainability, and healthy living practices, while fostering a sense of universal family and community. Manish is dedicated to achieving the ideal of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," striving to create a world where everyone is recognized as part of a universal undivided family.

Virginia Sharek is an Albertan who attended the U of A, completing a Bachelor of Education in 1967 and a Bachelor of Arts in 1990. After her first degree she spent a year in London, England. Upon her return to Canada she taught in Calgary for a year then two more years in Edmonton. She was married in 1973 and chose to stay home to raise her two sons. In 1993 Virginia took the opportunity to serve as the ecumenical and interfaith officer for the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton until her retirement in June 2013. During those years she held a number of positions in the Edmonton & District Council of Churches as well as in the Western Diocesan Eparchial Coordinators of Ecumenism. She was the representative for the Ukrainian Catholic Church of Canada on the Canadian Council of Churches for six years. Being a member of the "No Room in the Inn" committee since 2001 has provided the opportunity to get to know so many dedicated individuals in many organizations that are engaged in providing safe and affordable housing for people experiencing difficulties and hard times. In 2014, Virginia became a Life Member of the Interfaith Centre and joined the executive in 2019 as secretary. With appreciation and enthusiasm she continues to be part of the activities, educational opportunities, experiences, projects and workshops provided by the staff and members of the Centre. For Virginia, membership in the EICEA provides opportunities to work toward a kinder gentler and more just world with like minded people of faith which helps each of us to have hope.

Gary Simpson is a semi-retired teacher-counsellor. He has a seminary degree in Religious Education and recently completed an M.Div. at a multi-faith seminary. Gary, an ordained Universalist Christian clergy, attends McDougall United Church, where he is a Co-Chair of the Affirm Ministry. For a few years, Gary was on the executive of the Spirituality in Counselling Chapter of the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association. He has presented at conferences on topics related to spirituality and counseling, the counseling needs of sexual and gender minority youth, and how to respond to Biblical bullying. Gary has a passion for interpreting Scriptures in ways that do not wound, marginalize, and other people. He volunteers with a group that aims to reduce prejudice, discrimination, and hate.

Karnail Singh

Rebecca Wright has been involved in interfaith work since 2012 and has been to multiple NAIN "Connects", including helping to plan the one held in Edmonton in 2018 and designing its logo.

BOARD MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Netta Phillet – Executive Director

was born in Edmonton and has a degree in Religious Studies from the U of A. She has been the coordinator of the Edmonton Interfaith Centre since 2006 after being on the executive for 6 years. She is secretary of the board of directors at Beth Shalom Synagogue and also belongs to Temple Beth Ora (ask her the joke about one Jew, two synagogues.) Netta was a founding member of the Phoenix Multifaith Society for Harmony, is the treasurer of the Jewish Archives & Historical Society of Edmonton & Northern Alberta and is on the board of the local chapter of the M. Gandhi Foundation for World Peace. She is also serving on the Edmonton City Manager's Anti-Racism Advisory Board. For over 30 years she has been a sister in the Arab/Jewish Women's Peace Coalition. Much of the focus of her volunteer life is inter/intra faith dialogue and the place of women in religious ritual and observance.



MLA Christina Gray presents the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal to Netta. Board Members Jagjeet Bhardwaj & Nasim Kherani had already received theirs from the Lt. Gov.



Mayor Sohi presents a City Proclamation for the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

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ANNUAL REPORT

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