

## **VACANCY FOR A FULL-TIME IMAM, OTTAWA MOSQUE, ONTARIO, CANADA**

The Ottawa Muslim Association (OMA), the first and oldest Muslim organization in the Canadian National Capital Region (NCR) invites applications in confidence from suitably qualified candidates for the vacant position of a full-time Imam for the Ottawa Mosque. The position is to be filled immediately.

The Ottawa Mosque is the first, oldest, central, and popularly referred to as "the main mosque" in Ottawa.

Over the years, since it was established in 1972, it has been the venue for all major public events affecting Canadian Muslims.

Parliament Hill in Ottawa is where the seat of Canadian Parliament is located: Government House, the Supreme Court, the National Archives, and Bank of Canada, are all headquartered in Ottawa.

With a diverse population of over 960,000, it is on the mighty Ottawa River bordering the city of Gatineau, on the Quebec side of the river, where the Canadian Museum of History is situated.

Ottawa is an attractive family friendly city with a number of safe public parks, museums, such as the Museum of Nature, and walking trails, all of them ideal for an imam with a family.

It has the largest Skate Way on the Rideau Canal, venue for the annual Winterlude Skating.

Ottawa is a two-university campus city, home to the University of Ottawa and Carleton University. Along with Algonquin College, the city has a large international student population.

There are about 75,000 Muslims in the city from virtually the whole world served by some 12 masajids on both sides of the river. The community has a number of supportive service organizations, like a Women`s Organization, Housing Corporation, a Care Centre, Council of Imams, an online *Muslim Link*, the National Council of Canadian Muslims, Council of Muslim Communities, a Cemetery, and Islamic Schools.

The Ottawa Mosque congregation, like the city itself, is made up of high level number of public and private sector professionals, significant numbers of high tech specialists, diplomats, academics, business owners, students, and newly arriving refugees and immigrants.

It is where heads of government, politicians, diplomats, and other faith leaders come to address the Muslim community on matters of mutual interest.

Ottawa Muslims have historically enjoyed an amicable inter-faith relationship with all the non-Muslim religious communities in the Capital.

### **FUNCTIONS:**

As imam, you will lead regular salaats, the Friday, Eid, and Ramadan taraweehs prayers. Your khutbahs/sermons will reflect your wide Islamic scholarship. They will be refreshing and uplifting, leaving the congregation with something to reflect upon.

You will initiate, develop, and execute family oriented activities, including counseling for youths and families; and provide guidance to OMA schools and programs as needed.

Similarly, you will initiate, develop and collaborate in joint activities with inter-faith groups and other community organizations.

As Imam of the Ottawa Mosque, you will be approachable, comfortable in dealing with the diverse congregation/ Ottawa community at large, and show sensitivity to their cultural backgrounds in family counselling. You will preside over engagements, marriages, divorces, funeral services including janaza salaats, cemetery side invocations. Giving comfort and guidance to seniors, hospital patients and prison inmates.

You will be creative in conducting evening/weekend brief talks that attract a general attendance, and provide an opportunity for the congregation to ask questions. You are conversant with contemporary social issues impacting young Muslims and families.

You are self-driven, motivated, and are passionate about your role as a community leader that the congregation looks up to.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

You hold a Masters and/or PhD Degree in Islamic Studies from a recognized academic institution. Previous experience as imam or specific certificate in training as imam and/or counsellor would be a preference.

You possess and can display a deep knowledge of Qur'an and Sunnah. You are very knowledgeable in Sharia, Fiqh, and all Madhahibs, and are able to relate them to the North American Islamic environment. You have a comprehensive understanding of Canadian values, public ethics, and considerable knowledge of Canadian history and system of government. You can communicate them skillfully.

Demonstrated fluency in speaking, writing, and understanding Arabic and English is essential. Knowledge of French would be an advantage.

You are engaging, and have an excellent public speaking delivery style.

## **ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

Ability to fundraise locally to assist OMA would be a useful skill and asset.

Driving licence; excellent interpersonal skills; familiarity with use of information technology; ability to interact with the multi-ethnic Muslim congregation and the diverse Canadian society.

In your relationship with the OMA management, you will demonstrate sound judgement, be cooperative, and remain a team player.

## **CITIZENSHIP:**

Canadian Citizenship is preferred, though landed immigrants, and non-Canadians with competitive resumes will be given due consideration and visa assistance.

## **TERMS:**

A three-year contract, subject to a successful one-year probationary period. The contract is renewable at expiry.

## **SALARY AND BENEFITS:**

OMA offers an attractive competitive salary and benefits package.

## **APPLICATION DEADLINE:**

Interested candidates should submit their applications by **Sunday, October 15, 2017, 11:59 p.m. EST**

Applications should be submitted online. (Please refer to the submission section below). Resume/CV have to be emailed in PDF format to [JC@ottawamosque.ca](mailto:JC@ottawamosque.ca)

Please include with the resume a recent photo and audio/video of a sermon and Qur'an recitation.

Please include letters from two referees. It is preferable that the letters of recommendations be from those that have worked with you in your capacity as an imam or community leader. We wish to thank all applicants. Only successfully selected applicants for interviews will be contacted.

## **SUBMISSIONS:**

Application for imam position – online form

Resume/CV

Recent photo

Recent audio and/or video for sermon and Quran recitation

**Website:** <http://ottawamosque.ca/imam-position-available-for-ottawa-mosque/>

**Email:** [JC@ottawamosque.ca](mailto:JC@ottawamosque.ca)

ZMK/JC/OMA/2017