



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's
Diamond Jubilee Commemorative Event

IDEA OF AN IDEAL GOVERNMENT



Views of scholars of faith
Presentations • Poems • Hymns • Exhibition
Lunch • Refreshments • Dinner

Saturday, October 13, 2012
J. G. Hagey Hall, University of Waterloo
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

32nd
Anniversary



1-877-INFO-WRC

www.WorldReligionsConference.org



IDEA OF AN IDEAL GOVERNMENT

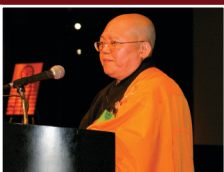
The conference will explore the impact of faith communities on politics and governments. Does religion provide any framework for an ideal government? To what extent should state and religion be separate? Distinguished faith scholars will deliberate at the conference. Faith groups will present spiritual poems and hymns, and set up displays.

You are cordially invited to the largest multi-faith event of Canada, on Saturday, October 13, 2012 at 10:00 am at the Humanities Theatre of J. G. Hagey Hall, University of Waterloo. Complimentary Lunch, Refreshments and Dinner will be served. There is no admission charge.

Register Online at
www.WorldReligionsConference.org

Local Phone: (519) 623-2786
Toll-Free: 1-877-INFO-WRC (1-877-463-6972)
Email: info@WorldReligionsConference.org

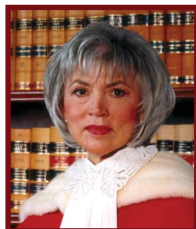
Largest Multi-Faith Event in Canada



WORLD RELIGIONS CONFERENCE

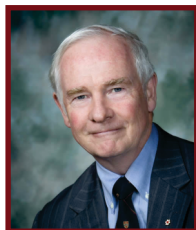
Comments from Dignitaries

“... Endeavors such as the World Religions Conference are vital for they demonstrate to the world that despite the richness of our differences, we have so much in common and can live together in a spirit of understanding and compassion ...”



*The Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada*

“... Canadians have the good fortune of living in an inclusive society, where religious diversity is appreciated and recognized as a great strength. This conference, which brings together people from diverse faiths and backgrounds in a spirit of goodwill and collaboration, serves to address important societal issues and to strengthen our mutual respect. ...”



*His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston
Governor General of Canada*

“... This unique event - the largest multi-faith conference of its kind in Canada - brings together individuals from a wide range of religious beliefs ... The fact that you have been assembling in a spirit of dialogue and congeniality for almost three decades speaks to your commitment to foster mutual understanding, respect and acceptance and thus to make the world a better place ...”



*The Right Honourable Stephen Harper
Prime Minister of Canada*

“... We believe that mutual respect and a genuine desire for understanding are key to a peaceful world ... The World Religions Conference embodies these very values as it brings together people of beliefs in a spirit of cross-cultural and inter-faith appreciation and acceptance ...”



*The Honourable Dalton McGuinty
Premier of Ontario*

Program

October 13, 2012

Presided and Moderated by
Indira Naidoo-Harris
Famous TV Host



Vastly admired and respected as a fair, credible journalist. Indira was born in South Africa and moved to Canada at a young age. Studied Political Science at University and began a career in journalism at NBC. Anchored at CBC Newsworld, CTV Newsnet, TVO and OMNI television. Won several awards and interviewed Prime Ministers, Premiers and other dignitaries. Currently a Director of Communications and mother of two children.

Opening Session

10:00a ~ 12:20p

- | | |
|--------|--|
| 10:00a | Doors Open (Registration and Social) |
| 10:30a | Opening World Religions Multi Media Presentation |
| 10:40a | Welcome by the Presiding Chair
— Indira Naidoo-Harris, Ontario's Famous TV Host |
| 10:45a | Opening Readings from the Holy Scriptures - All Faiths |
| 11:01a | Opening Ceremony
— Introduction of Speakers and Dignitaries
— Unveiling of the World Religions Conference Plaque
— Singing of O'Canada - National Anthem of Canada |
| 11:08a | Introductory Remarks
— Lal Khan Malik, National President,
Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama`at Canada |
| 11:14a | Introductory Perspective on the theme *
11:15a — Aborigines: Lois MacDonald - Guelph
11:20a — Judaism: Dr. Karen Mock - Toronto
11:25a — Islam: Mubarak A. Nazir - Toronto
11:30a — Sikhism: Rupinder Kaur - Ottawa
11:35a — Hinduism: Amit M. Kinikar - Toronto
11:40a — Christianity: Rev. Felicia Urbanski - Fergus
11:45a — Buddhism: Susan Child - Waterloo
11:50a — Humanism: Doug Thomas - Elmira |
| 11:56p | Messages and Greetings from Guest Dignitaries
— Representative of the University of Waterloo
— Local and Regional Leaders
— Provincial and National leaders |
| 12:18p | Proclamation on behalf of all delegates of WRC for:
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II,
on her Diamond Jubilee Celebration |
| 12:20p | Complimentary Lunch and Social Break |

Theme Session

1:20p ~ 4:45p

"Idea of an Ideal Government"

- 1:20p Introduction to the Theme Session — Moderator
- 1:24p Aboriginal Spiritual Perspective — Lois MacDonald – Guelph
1:39p Aboriginal Spiritual Poem or Hymn — Aboriginal Community
- 1:45p Jewish Perspective — Dr. Karen Mock - Toronto
2:00p Judaic Spiritual Poem or Hymn — Local Jewish Community
- 2:06p Islamic Perspective — Mubarak A. Nazir - Toronto
2:21p Islamic Spiritual Poem or Hymn — Ahmadiyya Muslim Childrens
- 2:27p Sikh Perspective — Rupinder Kaur - Ottawa
2:42p Sikh Spiritual Poem or Hymn — Sikh Student's Association, UW
- 2:48p Hindu Perspective — Amit M. Kinikar – Toronto
3:03p Hindu Spiritual Poem or Hymn — Local Hindu Community
- 3:09p Coffee Break — Complimentary Refreshments and Social
- 3:40p Announcing rules of the Q/A Session — Moderator
- 3:43p Christian Perspective — Rev. Felicia Urbanski – Fergus
3:58p Christian Spiritual Poem or Hymn — Local Christian Community
- 4:04p Buddhist Perspective — Susan Child - Waterloo
4:19p Buddhist Spiritual Poem or Hymn — Local Buddhist Community
- 4:25p Humanist Perspective — Doug Thomas - Elmira
4:40p Secular Poem or Song — Society of Ontario FreeThinkers

(* The order of speeches was determined via random draw on Oct. 1, 2011)

Concluding & Interactive Session

4:46p ~ 5:45p

- 4:46p Vote of Thanks - Recognition of Speakers and Volunteers
— Mohammad Amir Sheikh, Regional President,
Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama`at
- 4:52p Open Question & Answer Session with all Speakers
- 5:40p Closing Remarks — Moderator & Chair
- 5:43p Silent Multi-Faith Prayer — All Faiths
- 5:45p Complimentary Dinner and Social

(Program agenda subject to change)

Speaker Profiles

Distinguished Scholars of the World's Religions and Philosophies



Representing Aboriginals

Lois MacDonald – Guelph

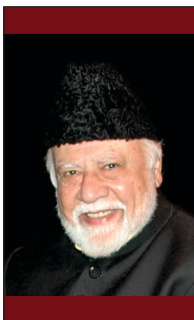
Respected speaker, Lois is a Missanbie Cree First Nation member originally from the Thunder Bay area, employed at Aboriginal Services – Conestoga College. Provides support and cultural guidance to the students and community members when needed. As a community helper, Lois shares the wisdom gained through the teachings and guides others to become their own leader and to follow their hearts as they walk their personal life journey.



Representing Judaism

Dr. Karen Mock - Toronto

Dynamic speaker, human rights consultant and psychologist. Karen was Executive Director of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation, and the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada. Recipient of many awards, widely published on multiculturalism, equity, hate crimes and race relations training. Active founding member of the Women's Intercultural Network, the Canadian Association of Jews and Muslims, the Arab Jewish Dialogue, and the Antiracist Multicultural Education Network of Ontario.



Representing Islam

Mubarak A. Nazir - Toronto

Senior Vice President and Missionary Incharge of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Canada. Prolific speaker who regularly appears on broadcast media, and has lectured at numerous forums explaining contemporary Islamic issues. Mubarak is a graduate with a scientific background. After dedicating his life, served as Missionary both in Africa and Canada. Principal of various Ahmadiyya Islamic Schools in Africa and most recently of the Ahmadiyya Islamic Institute in Canada.



Representing Sikhism

Rupinder Kaur - Ottawa

A learned erudite of Sikh traditions and an Influential South Asian. Rupinder worked as a press secretary for NDP for 5 years. Graduated from Guelph in International Development and post-graduated in International Project Management. During recent federal elections, worked in the media units. Worked as a community TV reporter for OMNI and weekly political columnist for South Asian papers. Worked closely with former NDP leaders Alexa McDonough and Jack Layton.

Speaker Profiles

Distinguished Scholars of the World's Religions and Philosophies



Representing Hinduism

Amit Madhusudhan Kinikar – Toronto

Remarkable speaker and an ordained minister of the Vedanta. Amit studied MBA and founded his own successful business. In 1998 he dedicated his life full time to the study, research and propagation of Vedanta. Joined the Vedanta Academy in Pune India and received comprehensive training covering traditional spiritual disciplines of Gnana, Knowledge, Bhakti Devotion and Karma Action. Founded the Vedanta Cultural Foundation Canada in 2008. At present conducts five classes.



Representing Christianity

Rev. Felicia Urbanski – Fergus

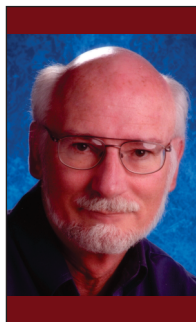
Minister for The United Church of Canada, Felicia currently serves the Erin and Inglewood pastoral charges. She has also served congregations in the Unitarian Universalist Association. Her passions include empowering people to develop vital spiritual lives and healthy intergenerational churches, creating engaging worship, promoting environmental stewardship, and caring for the disadvantaged in our society. Her interfaith involvement began in 1994. Felicia enjoys playing her violin and singing in choirs.



Representing Buddhism

Susan Child - Waterloo

Spiritual guide and an teacher, Susan began practicing meditation, and engaging in spiritual inquiry in the 1970s. Since 1991, has been involved extensively in Buddhist study and practice in Europe, Asia and North America, with respected Dharma teachers, primarily in the Theravadan and Tibetan traditions. Founder of the Waterloo Riverview Dharma Centre (1999) a non-sectarian centre for meditative practice in the Buddhist tradition where she is the spiritual coordinator.



Representing Humanism

Doug Thomas - Elmira

Retired teacher, Canadian historical fiction novelist, Doug Thomas is President of the Society of Ontario Freethinkers and founding President of Secular Connexion Séculaire, a new advocacy group for Canadian Humanists. Editor of Canadian Free-thinker magazine with essays published internationally in The United States, United Kingdom, Europe and India. A respected Agnostic Humanist, Doug actively promotes open secularism as a means of separating Church from State in Canada.

Past

World Religions Conferences

- 1981 – Life and Teachings of Various Religious Founders
Brier Park School, Brantford
- 1981 – Life and Teachings of Various Religious Founders
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1982 – Life and Teachings of Various Religious Founders
Brier Park School, Brantford
- 1983 – Life and Teachings of Various Religious Founders
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1984 – Concept of Salvation
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1985 – Human Rights in Religion
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1986 – The Rights of Men and Women in Religion
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1987 – Existence of God in Religion
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1988 – Life After Death
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1989 – World Peace
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1990 – Drug Abuse
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1991 – Solution of Modern Social Problems
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1992 – Racial, Religious and Cultural Tolerance
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1993 – War or Peace - What Awaits Humanity?
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1995 – Family Values in Religion
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1996 – Role of Religion in the Future
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1997 – Are There Any Absolute Universal Values?
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1998 – Mankind in the Next Millennium
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 1999 – Morality in the Next Millennium
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 2000 – Changing Faces of the Family - Religious Perspectives
North Park Collegiate, Brantford
- 2001 – Reconciling the Existence of God & Human Suffering
University of Waterloo, Waterloo
- 2002 – World Peace - What Religions Can Achieve
University of Waterloo, Waterloo
- 2003 – In Search of the Existence of God
University of Waterloo, Waterloo
- 2004 – Why Religion?
University of Waterloo, Waterloo
- 2005 – The Basis and Concept of Salvation
Centre in the Square, Kitchener
- 2006 – My Faith and Freedom of Conscience
University of Waterloo, Waterloo
- 2007 – How Religion Can Protect the Environment
University of Waterloo, Waterloo
- 2008 – Founders of Religion - Model for Humanity
University of Waterloo, Waterloo
- 2009 – Is God Relevant in Today's World?
University of Waterloo, Waterloo
- 2010 – Keeping Faith Alive In Contemporary Society
University of Waterloo, Waterloo
- 2011 – Who is God? Nature and Characteristics
University of Waterloo, Waterloo

OUR PARTNERS

 <p>club FEDERATION OF STUDENTS</p>	 <p>University of Waterloo</p>
 <p>CTV</p>	 <p>WATERLOO REGION RECORD Community Partnerships Program</p>
 <p>570 News ALL NEWS RADIO</p>	 <p>Guelph Mercury</p>
 <p>THE CITY OF Waterloo</p>	 <p>CANADA CAMBRIDGE <i>It's all right here</i></p>
 <p>Sikh Students' Association (UW)</p>	 <p>Brahmarishi Mission of Canada (Kitchener-Waterloo)</p>
 <p>KITCHENER ONTARIO STAKE THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS</p>	 <p>Sri Sathya Sai Baba Spiritual Group (UW)</p>
 <p>Aboriginal Student Services (UW)</p>	 <p>Waterloo Riverview Dharma Centre</p>
 <p>mta INTERNATIONAL</p>	 <p>Society of Ontario Freethinkers</p>
 <p>Across Boundaries Multifaith Institute</p>	 <p><i>experience it real</i> LFA</p>
 <p>Promoting Harmony CrossCultures MAGAZINE <i>through knowledge and better understanding</i></p>	 <p>Forest Hill United Church Kitchener</p>
 <p>CHURCH OF SAINT MICHAEL Waterloo, Ontario</p>	 <p>KW Council of Churches</p>
 <p>St. Philip's Lutheran Church Kitchener</p>	 <p>callture wherever you go</p>
	 <p>PHATELECTRONICS.COM</p>

Disclaimer: Views expressed at this conference are those of the speakers and may NOT necessarily reflect the views of the Federation of Students or the University of Waterloo or any other organization.

ORGANIZERS



Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at
5 Elliot Street, Cambridge,
Ontario N1R 2J3



Ahmadiyya Muslim
Students' Association
Univ. of Waterloo & Wilfrid Laurier

Message from our Premier Sponsor

Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at

*T*his conference was envisioned by the founder of worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at, who claimed to be the divinely appointed Promised Messiah and al-Imam al-Mahdi^{as} in 1889.

*T*he Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at organizes it in many countries on a regular basis. Scholars of various religions express the beauties of their respective faith, in a peaceful and brotherly atmosphere.

*T*he Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at is an embodiment of the benevolent message of all world religions — peace, universal brotherhood, and submission to the Will of God.

*I*n Canada, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at has been organizing this conference for 32 years.



National Head Office:
Bai'tul Islam Mosque
Maple, Ontario, Canada

www.ahmadiyya.ca
www.alislam.org

Glimpses from recent World Religions Conferences



October 1, 2011: Who is God? Nature and Characteristics - Waterloo



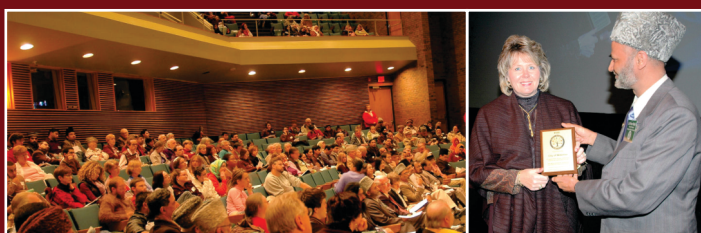
October 16, 2010: Keeping Faith Alive In Contemporary Society - UW



October 24, 2009: Is God Relevant in Today's World - UW



October 26, 2008: Founders of Religion, Model for Humanity - UW



November 24, 2007: How Religion Can Protect the Environment - UW



No Admission Charge

Complimentary Parking in Lot H (Guaranteed before 11:00 am)

RSVP suggested: www.WorldReligionsConference.org

Toll Free: 1-877-INFO-WRC (1-877-463-6972)

Local Phone: 519-623-2786 ; Fax: 1-866-290-3611.

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