

## ICC Meeting – June 1, 2015

### Attendees

1. Farhang Farid
2. Behrouz Amouzgar
3. Bijan Ahmadi
4. Soudeh Ghassemi
5. Shahram Namvarazad
6. Arshak Shojaei
7. Mitra Saffari
8. Arsalan Kahnemuipour
9. Reza Ghazi

### Agenda

1. Circulation of Meeting Minutes among Members
2. Procedure for Selection of Officers
3. Community Engagement & the “I am Iranian Canadian too” Campaign
4. The event organized by the Islamic Society of York Region
5. Issue with Verification of Iranian Medical Professional Credentials

### 1. Circulation of the Meeting Minutes among Members

#### **Motion M-20150601-1**

#### *Moving board member:*

Arsalan Kahnemuyipour

#### *Motion Text:*

Minutes of the board of directors of the Iranian Canadian Congress to be posted on the website of the ICC, subject to the exclusion of information held in confidence, within a week of the following meeting and after receiving approval from the majority of the directors on the board.

Minutes to include:

- Date
- Attendance (attending, regrets, absents)
- Decisions
- Brief description of the topics
- Vote of every director

Every director to be permitted to request that information disclosed by that director be held in confidence.

Seconded:

Motion seconded by Farhang Farid.

Status:

Motion carried unanimously.

## 2. Procedure for Selection of Officers

### **Motion M-20150601-2**

Moving board member:

Bijan Ahmadi

Motion Text:

Any board member to nominate himself/herself or any other member of the board of directors for any of the 4 officer positions provided in the bylaws at the next meeting of the board of directors. Voting to take place transparently and not by way of secret ballot.

Seconded:

Motion seconded by Shahram Namvarazad.

Status:

Motion carried. All in favour with the exception of Mr. Arshak Shojaei.

## 3. Community Engagement & the “I am Iranian Canadian too” Campaign

### **Motion M-20150601-3**

Moving board member:

Soudeh Ghassemi

Motion Text:

In pursuit of its community engagement objective, and in light of the fruitful efforts of the I am Iranian Canadian too Campaign in attracting a large number of members in the past year for the organization, an item to be added to the agenda of the next meeting to have the ICC extend an invitation to the organizers of this campaign and request that they act as the community engagement arm of the ICC.

Seconded:

Motion seconded by Bijan Ahmadi.

Status:

Motion carried unanimously.

#### **4. Event organized by the Islamic Society of York Region**

Discussion:

Arsalan Kahnemuyipour proposed that we conduct an online survey in relation to this matter.

Mitra Safari stated that while electronic surveys are a useful tool in certain circumstances, it may not be the best mechanism in this case

Behrouz Amouzgar stated that given that new board members were elected only a day before this issue was raised with the ICC, it would have been more appropriate for the old board to deal with this matter.

Soudeh Ghasemi stated that any activity that is for or against the government of Iran qualifies as partisan and hence is outside of the mandate of the ICC. A survey of the members should be conducted to determine whether the members wish to have the ICC operate in the areas of Human Rights in Iran.

Arsalan Kahnemuyipour stated that the ICC shall remain non-partisan but at the same time it shall act in the best interests of the Iranian-Canadian community. A position that has the upholding of the best interest of the Iranian-Canadian community at its core, is not necessarily partisan if it happens to favour or hurt any particular political group, party or government, so long as such position is taken with the view to uphold the best interests of the Iranian-Canadian community.

Bijan Ahmadi stated that while he is personally outraged with this event but he believes that we should consult with members before deciding the role of the ICC in this matter.

Arshak Shojaei stated that you cannot survey the obvious such as democracy or the human rights. Respect for and protection of Human Rights is essential. Mr. Shojaei suggested that the board release the statement prepared by the previous board.

Shahram Namvarazad stated that if German-Canadians celebrate Hitler, it would outrage everyone and they would certainly react.

Behrouz Amouzgar stated that in order to be able to respond to matters such as this, the board should also consider the tools provided to it in the bylaws such as cooperation with other community groups.

**Motion M-20150601-4**

*Moving board member:*

Farhang Farid

*Motion Text:*

The statement prepared by the previous board to be reviewed and revised to reflect that a large number of the members of our community were concerned with the event that took place on Sunday and that through community engagement and surveying of the members, the ICC will take steps to find mechanisms for reacting and responding to issues of a similar nature in a timely and effective manner.

*Status:*

Motion carried unanimously.

**Note:** This motion was subsequently reversed in the meeting of June 10, 2015

**5. Issue with Verification of Iranian Medical Professional Credentials**

**Motion M-20150601-5**

*Moving board member:*

Bijan Ahmadi

*Motion Text:*

The ICC to conduct research about this issue and to find a solution. Bijan Ahmadi volunteered to take the lead.

*Status:*

Motion carried unanimously.