

## **ICC Meeting – Nov 4, 2015, Toronto Metro Hall**

### **ICC Board Meeting**

#### **Attendees**

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

#### **Regrets**

1. Farhang Farid

#### **Agenda**

1. Introductory remarks – Arsalan
2. Approval of Minutes of October 22
3. Election Success Celebration – Arsalan
4. Discussion forums for ICC members – Arsalan
5. Committee Reports
6. Board Meetings (Frequency, Medium, Location, Observers)
7. E-mails to the board about Ashura event
8. Medi Shams E-mails To Board (Continued)
9. ICC's Role and Constraints in Advocacy
10. Other business
11. Adjournment

#### **1. Minutes of October 22, 2015**

The minutes of October 22, 2015 will be prepared by Behrouz Amouzgar upon receipt of the audio recording of the meeting from Soudeh Ghasemi.

#### **2. Event in Recognition of the Success of the Iranian Canadian Community in the most recent elections**

The ICC board is contemplating holding an event to celebrate the involvement of the Iranian Canadian community in the most recent election. The board was at first considering holding the event on December 18, 2015 but Mohandes organization

has planned a Yalda event on that night. The location is Le Parc and the next available option is Thursday, December 10, 2015.

Many individuals including Majid Jowhari, Ali Ehsassi, Pouyan Tabasinejad, Michael Parsa, Kaveh Shahrooz, Lily Pourzand, David Mousavi have been contacted. Almost all have supported the event while we are still waiting to hear from a couple of them.

The board to ensure that all candidates in the various federal and municipal elections are invited and recognized at the event.

The board to look into Persian Palace as an alternative for the nights of 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>.

Behrouz Amouzgar to follow up with Persian Palace. A group of board members will be collaborating on the event for the details.

### **3. Committee Reports**

#### **Cultural Committee**

The cultural committee is thinking of holding an event on the occasion of International Day of Elimination of Violence Against Women on November 29, 2015.

Mitra Saffari will consider collaborating with Iranian Women's Organization of Ontario (IWOO) and the organization of Afghan Canadian women.

The cultural committee is collaborating with International Diaspora Film Festival and has provided its volunteers with an opportunity to attend the opening of the festival at a discounted rate.

All in favour of supporting the International Diaspora Film Festival with the exception of Mr. Namvarazad who voted against and Mr. Shojaei who abstained from voting.

#### **Communications and PR**

On November 15 the PR committee is holding Effective Job Search.

The first pub night of the ICC was a success.

Kahrizak is now an affiliate.

As per the bylaws, the Affiliate organizations are to have a representative to sit on the Advisory Group of the ICC.

Thus far, the following advisory group members have been approved:

- 1) Ahmad Tabrizi (Parya Trillium Foundation)

- 2) Mehrdad Ariannejad (Tirgan)
- 3) Mr. Fotovat (Kahrizak Foundation)
- 4) Mr. Omid Valinasab (PICRA)

Mr. Namvarazad and Mr. Shojaee objected to one of the added advisory board members. They were reminded that the affiliate organizations are responsible for introducing their representation based on ICC bylaws and previous motions.

The board to order business cards for Arsalan Kahnemuyipour, Soudeh Ghasemi, Bijan Ahmadi, Mitra Saffari and Proshat Javid (Affiliate Partnership Coordinator). All in favour.

Couple of PR members are interested to work on info sessions and workshops for Iranian Canadian entrepreneurs and those interested to open their own business. Reza suggested that for one of their events they can collaborate with the project that he is working on with the York region. Bijan will connect these volunteers with Reza for further discussion.

### **Policy Development Committee**

The Policy Development Committee has thus far held 7 meetings and has one active subcommittee focused on preparing a proposal for the revision of the bylaws.

The Bylaw Revisions Subcommittee has thus far held 3 meetings and has prepared reports of its meetings in form of minutes.

A vacancy was created in the Policy Development Committee as a result of the resignation of one of the members of the group. Soudeh Ghasemi from the board of directors has agreed to join the Policy Development Committee to fill this vacancy.

### **4. Financial Report & Liability Insurance**

Reza Ghazi advised that the current balance of the bank account is \$3,694.90. Mr. Ghazi advised that given that our resources are limited we should ensure that all of our events are financially accounted for.

The board has obtained a number of quotes for directors' and commercial liability insurance. The most competitive rate was provided by AEON.

Motion for the board to obtain directors' and commercial liability insurance from Aeon was passed.

### **5. Format of the Meetings**

Bijan Ahmadi proposed the following motion:

Meetings of the board to be held once every two weeks with one meeting held in person and the other held via Skype.

The board to allow 5 observers to attend the in person meetings without having the right to interrupt the meetings, to record them or release any information to third

parties about the board meetings prior to the release of the official approved minutes.

Note: the original motion suggested meetings to be held in person but once a month. The frequency of the meetings in the original motion was amended to twice a month, one in person and one via skype as mentioned above.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### 6. Discussion Forums

Bijan suggested that Mr. Arshak Shojaei and Ms. Soudeh Ghasemi to organize regular open forum sessions for open discussion about important community issues. Mr. Shojaei and Ms. Ghasemi agreed to discuss the details and update the board about the topic for their first session. Motion approved unanimously.

Note: A response to Mehdi Shams's e-mail was prepared and approved via e-mail. The approved response was sent to him.

The other items of the agenda were tabled for future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.