



**Canadian Council of Muslim Women**  
**Le conseil canadien des femmes musulmanes**

**December 2013**

This is the last newsletter of 2013! It has been a whirlwind of a year with many challenges and many successes as well.

CCMW will begin 2014 with a series of Train the Trainer workshops and media launches of its latest project "Women in the Niqab Speak".

Hope our members enjoy the December newsletter and should you like to read more about the articles here, please click on the links or visit our website:  
[www.ccmw.com](http://www.ccmw.com).

**Don't forget to share our newsletter on your social networks and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and Google +**

---

**Executive Director: Alia Hogben**

**December 6 2013**

Why is violence against women and girls accepted by so many people and why by us Muslims?



Is it part of Islam? If not, then why do some Muslims continue to interpret Islam so that their cultures and traditions tolerate such violent actions against their



Facebook



Twitter



mothers, daughters, and wives?

Violence against women is a universal phenomenon. A recent analysis of the World Health Organization found that globally 35% of women have experienced either physical and /or sexual intimate partner violence. Along with risk factors such as past history of violence, or lower level of education, the other factors are: “attitudes that are accepting of violence and gender inequality; beliefs in family honour and sexual purity; and ideologies of male sexual entitlement.”

It is patriarchy which insists on gender inequality and male entitlement. As women and girls we are not below males, we are not subordinate and we are not only complementary to men. The male is not the standard of being human. [Read more.](#)

Website



Email



Instagram



LinkedIn



Google Plus

 Share

 Tweet

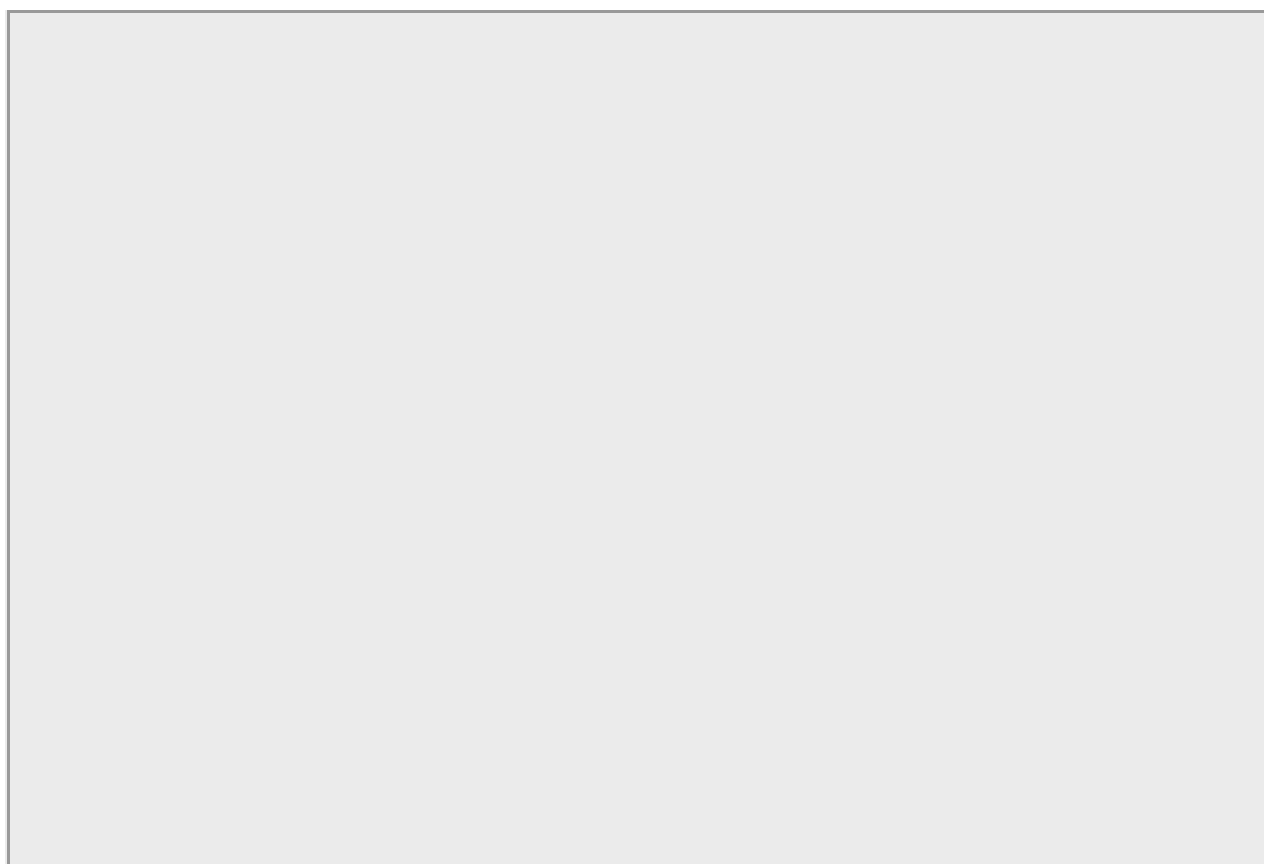
 Forward to Friend

 +1

 Share

---

CCMW CHAPTERS



# WOMEN IN NIQAB SPEAK

A study of the  
niqab in Canada

Lynda Clarke

## **Waterloo/ Wellington Chapter**

### **Media Launch for the "Women in Niqab Speak" project**

[Women in Niqab Speak: A Study of the Niqab](#) in Canada, the first Canadian study of its kind, gives voice to Muslim women who wear the niqab. The study, funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, was conducted by [Dr. Lynda Clarke](#), Associate Professor of Religion and Islam at Concordia University. Results are based on 129 responses to a survey, focus groups and personal interviews with women who wear the niqab.

One of the official launches will take place in Guelph on February 16th 2014 from 2pm to 5pm at 289 Walter Street, Guelph, ON, N1G1B8.



## **Toronto Chapter**

### **Reviving Islamic Spirit 2013**

The Toronto chapter was able to host a booth at this year's prestigious and popular conference: Reviving Islamic Spirit. The chapter was able to introduce the organization to many attendees from around the Canada and the United States.



## Toronto Chapter

### Intercultural Festival - Linking Diversity!

On December 7th 2013, the Toronto chapter attended the Rehma Community Services held the Intercultural Festival - Linking Diversity! This event truly lived up to its name with amazing performances by many talented individuals! Program Executive, Amani Alibrahim, and Communications Executive, Niketa Bissessar, had the pleasure of meeting and dining with the Liberal Member of Provincial Parliament Michael Coteau.



## Toronto Chapter

### Muslimah United Conference

On Saturday, November 30th 2013, the Toronto Chapter attended the Muslimahs United Conference and Bazaar where the Vice President, Amra Ghouse, spoke about CCMW and the local chapter.

---

AROUND THE WORLD



## **Message of UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka on Human Rights Day**

Author: [unwomen.org](http://unwomen.org)

Today on International Human Rights Day, I call on men, women and young people around the world to join forces to protect the rights of women. And I pay tribute to those of you who are women human rights defenders.

Twenty years ago, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action emphasized that the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by women and girls is a priority for Governments and the United Nations. Important principles were reinforced, including the universality of human rights and the duty of States to uphold them.

Since then, an extensive body of legal standards and recommendations on women's human rights has been developed.

And much progress has been made in the adoption of national laws, policies and programmes to promote women's human rights and equality.

The international women's rights treaty, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which is legally binding, has been ratified by 187 nations. [Read more.](#)

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Impact of Family Violence Conference:  
A South Asian Perspective**

Presented by  
**Social Services Network**

**May 14 and 15, 2014**  
Durham College and University of Ontario  
Institute of Technology  
at 2000 Simcoe St. N, Oshawa

A community development approach for addressing  
family violence in South Asian communities

*Please join us to learn more, help raise awareness and  
support the movement to eliminate family violence.*

Contact Meccana Ali at  
mali@socialservicesnetwork.org or 905-940-7864 ext. 223

**SOCIALSERVICESNETWORK**  
1111 Bay Street, Toronto, ON M5G 1B2

**UNIVERSITY OF ONTARIO**  
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
OSHAWA | CANADA | 416

**CBC**

**York Region Children's Aid Society**

**DURHAM COLLEGE**  
JUSTICE WRITERS

**CDCD**  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
CENTRE DURHAM

**DURHAM Children's Aid Society**

**THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION**  
AT DURHAM COLLEGE & UO

**OUTREACH SERVICES**

**www.socialservicesnetwork.org**

### Call for Workshop Presenters 2014

The Impact of Family Violence Conference invite groups, organizations and academics who have been conducting studies, developed community strategies and/or have developed community-based resources related to family violence in South Asian communities, to come and present their work to a Durham,

provincial and national audience.

Social Services Network (SSN) are accepting submissions for paper presentations, round-tables and workshops relevant to the nature of violence in South Asian communities as well as other areas discussed in this attachment.

Conference Proposals must be submitted by February 15th 2014. All proposals should be sent to [mali@socialservicesnetwork.org](mailto:mali@socialservicesnetwork.org) with the title: 2014 Conference Workshop Application.



The flyer is divided into several sections. At the top left, there are three small images: one showing sewing supplies, one showing hands sewing, and one showing a person at a sewing machine. To the right of these images are three text boxes: 'Job Skills Entrepreneurship', 'Business Plan Resources', and 'Green Entrepreneurship for Women'. The main title 'Green Entrepreneurship for Women' is followed by the subtitle 'Exploring opportunities for self-employment through sewing recycled and repurposed clothing'. Below this, there are two columns of text. The left column lists eligibility criteria and topics covered. The right column lists program details and contact information. At the bottom, there are logos for 'Sponsored by Toronto Employment & Social Services', 'Newcomer Women's Services Toronto', and 'Goodwill'.

**Job Skills Entrepreneurship**

**Business Plan Resources**

**Green Entrepreneurship for Women**  
Exploring opportunities for self-employment through sewing recycled and repurposed clothing

This program is for women and trans people who:

- Are receiving social assistance (OW)
- Have experience with/interest in sewing/knitting/traditional handicrafts
- Have an interest in learning about self-employment/starting their own business

Topics covered include:

- Job skills
- Developing a business plan
- Building your business
- Connecting with community supports
- Sewing projects using recycled clothing

Program consists of:

- 12 weeks of training Monday – Thursday 9:30 – 3:30
- 15 days job mentoring/shadowing with local business
- Mixture of classroom and practical hands-on learning

To apply, please contact by January 10  
Deepa Premnath  
745 Danforth Avenue, Toronto, ON M4J 1L2  
416.462.3571 / [deepa@newcomerwomen.org](mailto:deepa@newcomerwomen.org)

Sponsored by Toronto Employment & Social Services.

 NEWCOMER WOMEN'S SERVICES TORONTO

 Goodwill

## Green Entrepreneurship Program

Newcomer Women's Services Toronto is launching a Green Entrepreneurship Program providing women with 12 weeks of training and 15 days job mentoring/shadowing with local business.

Deadline: January 10, 2014.

Contact Deepa Premnath at [416.462.3571](tel:416.462.3571) or at [deepa@newcomerwomen.org](mailto:deepa@newcomerwomen.org)

Learn more about this program [http://newcomerwomen.org/green\\_entrepreneurship.html](http://newcomerwomen.org/green_entrepreneurship.html)





[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

MailChimp.