

Salaam 2.0 asks Hard Questions.

At a recent conference we asked Muslims leaders about radicalization of youth:

"Why are children in madrassas (Islamic schools) taught to fight rather than taught peace?"

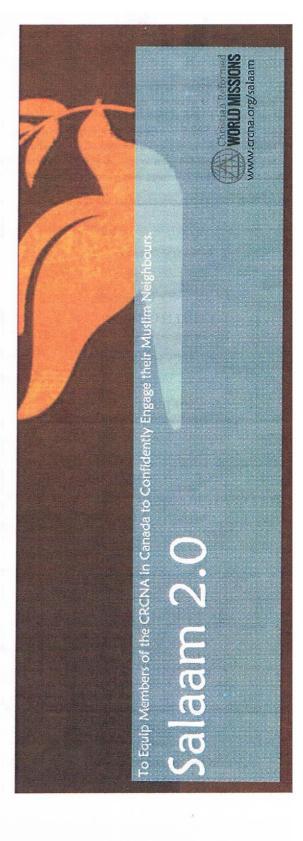
Muslims also ask us difficult questions about the nature of our God and the Salaam 2.0 provides answers to those difficult questions.

"Why is the God of the Old Testament angry and violent and how do you explain God's "change of nature" in the New Testament?"

Engaging with our Muslim neighbours in dialogue does not mean compromise. The Gospel is and will be clearly proclaimed.

- Salaam 2.0 leadership includes 40 years of field experience in ministry to Muslims
- Salaam 2.0 has a three year track record as a CRC-NA program
- The Salaam 2.0 will help people understand barriers that Muslims have to hearing the Gospel.
- The Salaam 2.0 seeks to bring those barriers down with the help of the Holy Spirit and increase ministries to Muslims in Canada, the USA and globally.
- Salaam 2.0 will develop networks with missionaries, pastors and others who are involved in ministry among Muslims.
- Salaam 2.0 will develop and share best practices to encourage effective ministry.





About Salaam 2.0

Vision of Salaam 2.0:

To equip members of the CRCNA in Canada to confidently engage their Muslim neighbours.

The time is right for the Salaam 2.0. Muslims are settling in Canada and they are our neighbors. There are 500,000 Muslims living in the Greater Toronto Hamilton Area. That number is predicted to rise to 2.1 million by the year 2031. One quarter of immigrants to Canada follow the Islamic faith. The percentage of Muslims in Canada is currently 3.5% and could be as high as 7.3% by 2031. There are 1.7 billion Muslims in the world today.

Extremist groups are often the only picture we get of the Muslim faith. Our fear causes our witness to suffer.

Like Jesus's encounter with the Samaritan woman, the challenge of our time is to meet our Muslim neighbors. Christ has told us, "Be not afraid," simply be prepared to tell what you believe.

Being ready to be a witness for Christ at home in our diverse communities or around the world is the changing nature of Global missions.



Salaam 2.0 Plan



<u>Dialogue</u> – Proactively seek to develop relationships with Muslim brothers and sisters.

- We will do this through interfaith conferences.
- We will seek to develop a dialogue network together with campus ministry in Canada.
- We will partner with other organizations like our current support for Mission Montreal.

<u>Witness</u> – Living lives of joy as examples of Christ's love.

- Witness to Muslims requires time and engagement, Salaam 2.0 will partner with the Canadian Network of Ministry to Muslims seek ways to witnesses to Muslims.
- Salaam 2.0 will partner with churches to do ministry to Muslims.
- Through the unified ministries of World Missions and Home Missions Salaam 2.0 is the outreach coordinator for CRCNA ministry to Muslims in Canada.

<u>Peacemaking</u> – Salaam 2.0 will provide a voice for peace between Muslim and Christian in Canada and around the world.

- Partnering with the CRC Center for Public dialogue and the office of Race Relations Salaam will be an advocate for peaceful conflict resolution.
- Salaam 2.0 will maintain the existing connection between the RCA and the CRCNA and donor collaborative efforts to minister to Muslims.
- Salaam 2.0 will interface between the local ministries of the CRCNA and those that engage in ministry to Muslims internationally.

<u>Hospitality</u> - Salaam 2.0 will help to bring down barriers to hospitality.

- Education on religious and cultural norms will help alleviate anxiety and open up doors for interaction.
- Salaam 2.0 will adapt the hospitality of CRC people to be an asset in engaging with Muslim neighbors.
- Salaam 2.0 will be the conduit by which the CRC will learn how to receive hospitality from our Muslim neighbors. Receiving hospitality is an important part of building dialogue and trust. (i.e. protocols for visiting mosques for Friday prayers or a Ramadan Iftar meal.)