



Ask Me Anything: Canadian Islamic Heritage Month Event Recap

By: Chyanna Belaire, Student, Events Management

Panelists



Tabassum
Khan



Waheed
Khan

Ask Me Anything

Canadian Islamic History Month

A Courageous Conversation on Being Who We Are



Awo
Nuuh



Eric
Tibbets

Time: 1:00 pm EST

Date: October 12, 2022

Hosts: Sarah Fath-El-Bab and Bernadeth Betchi

On Wednesday, October 14, we held our interdepartmental Ask Me Anything event, in collaboration with the Department of National Defence and Health Canada.

Participants tuned in virtually to take part in a conversation on [Canadian Islamic History](#). Among the passionate speakers were:

- Tabassum Khan, Culture, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisor, Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions Canada
- Waheed Khan, President, Community of Federal Visible Minorities (CFVM), Senior Advisor, Climate Change International, Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Awo Nuuh, Senior Policy Analyst, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
- Eric Tibbets, Student, Carleton University

The conversation was co-moderated by Sarah Fath-El-Bab, Senior Policy Analyst, Pest Management Regulatory Agency, Health Canada and Bernadeth Betchi, Acting Section Head, Lead Advisor for Diversity and Inclusion, Materiel Group, National Defence.

During the conversation, the panelists spoke about their individual experiences, both in personal and professional settings, identifying as Muslim. Many of them have faced discrimination, microaggressions and inequality and continue to encounter challenges in the public service due to their identity. They discussed some of the common stereotypes among Muslim people as well as the various forms of Islamophobia and hate-fueled violence directed towards their communities. Beyond these difficult conversations, we also learned about their beautiful culture and celebrated their

contributions and achievements. As always, let's continue to work towards a compassionate, inclusive and safer Canada for everyone.

Thank you to all of our speakers for being vulnerable and sharing your stories. Thank you also to all who attended the event or watched the recording online. Together, we're creating space for these important conversations within the Government of Canada.

For those who didn't get a chance to tune in live, we invite you to watch the [event recording](#) and to share this event with members of your family, friends, and community.

DFO-CCG events: Diversity and Inclusion and Ask Me Anything series

Have ideas for upcoming AMAs, want to share more of yourself with our organization, or share general feedback? Contact the [Internal Communications, Event Management and Publications Team](#)! We are committed to learning more and doing better and hope you join us on this challenge.

To get involved with the Ask Me Anything Community and access documentation from past events, join us on our new [Ask Me Anything site on GC Wiki Collab](#).