Sakeenah Canada To Open First Transitional Shelter for Muslim Women and Children in Regina, Saskatchewan

This also marks the first transitional shelter for Muslim women and children in the province of Saskatchewan

REGINA, October 27, 2023 – Sakeenah Canada is proud to announce the opening of its eighth transitional home in Regina, Saskatchewan. Being the first of its kind in Saskatchewan, the shelter will provide a safe and accessible housing option for vulnerable Muslim women and children facing domestic violence and homelessness in the area.

"While it is bittersweet announcing the opening of a new transitional shelter, we are grateful for the opportunity to help more Muslim women and children who need our support in Regina," said Nazish Tayab, Executive Director at Sakeenah Canada. "All of our work is based in cultural and religious sensitivity, and with the growing immigrant population in Saskatchewan, it is imperative that options and programming like ours is available."

According to <u>Statistics Canada</u>, Saskatchewan has the highest rate of reported intimate partner violence among all provinces, and more than double the national rate. The Regina home will accommodate up to 10 women, helping to fill the increasing need for shelter and safety as the population grows.

Sakeenah Canada was founded to fill a gap in the system; Muslim women were looking for refuge and safety but mainstream shelters do little to address their religious and cultural needs. Beyond the transitional shelter program, Sakeenah Canada offers remote casework and mental health services nation-wide, and since inception has helped over 15,000 people.

Sakeenah Canada will also be opening a transitional shelter in Newfoundland and Labrador later this year, which will be the third Sakeenah Canada shelter to open in 2023.

Sakeenah Canada partners with local organizations and other non-profits to support our projects. An honourable mention for our partners Human Concern International, the Northpine Foundation, and Muslim Association of Canada to help make the Regina home a reality.

About Sakeenah Canada

Sakeenah Canada, a national charitable organization, was founded in 2018 in response to a gap for culturally and religiously sensitive services for women and children facing domestic violence and homelessness. Since then, our services and programs have expanded to include remote casework; mental health therapy and counseling; The People's Market, a food program that helps combat food insecurity; and most recently, became the first licensed foster care agency for Muslim children in North America. Sakeenah Canada currently operates 8 transitional homes across Canada: Toronto, Brampton, Milton, London, Montreal, Ottawa, Winnipeg, and Regina.

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