



ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022



INSPIRE . EDUCATE . EMPOWER
bilalcommunitycentre.ca

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Board Chair.....	3
Message from the Executive Director.....	4
Message from the Finance & Human Resource Director.....	5
Summer Youth Program.....	6
Triple I Program.....	7
Family Time.....	8
Mentor and Motivate Immigrant Youth.....	9
Social Support for Senior Programs (SSS).....	10
Intergenerational Relations.....	11
SCREEN Program.....	12
Green Team Project.....	14
Celebrating Black History Month.....	15
Emancipation Day.....	16
Somali Heritage Week.....	17
Ruweda Mohamed.....	18
Fatima Ahmed.....	19
Guest Speakers.....	20
Financial Statements.....	25
Thank You to Our Funders, Friends & Supporters.....	27



Dr. Kathleen Buddle

Board Chair



Warm greetings to all! BCFC represents an innovative community-building endeavor and is supported by individuals who are dedicated to developing culturally safe spaces, strong families, and flourishing communities.

BCFC seeks to inspire a more compassionate world through relationship-building, education, civic engagement, interfaith and inter-cultural collaborations, counseling and youth empowerment.

BCFC's broad range of diverse programs and services are designed to place newcomer, immigrant, and refugee families at the centre of this model of community development. It is an honour to serve as Board Chair for an institution that works so committedly to help plan, and make possible, hopeful futures. The BCFC Board will work hard to earn your trust and is very eager to hear from you. We believe that your involvement and support and your ideas about how to improve BCFC will be what defines this organization. The Board is here to serve you and we look forward to working together with you to find ways to overcome community challenges, to eliminate barriers, to create opportunities, and to celebrate accomplishments. All the best!



Muhiadin Omar

BA BSW, CAMC

Founder and Executive Director



Despite the enormous challenges and changes we have all had to endure in the last two years, I am very grateful that BCFC has been able to continue to serve our community and make a difference in the lives of so many children, youth, and families.

BCFC has increased its capacity, and designed and delivered so many impactful programs. These new programs were tailored to the needs of our clients and community members. As indicated in our vision and mission, most of our programs focus on mentoring, coaching, training, inspiring, educating, and empowering youth so that they can recognize their strengths, pursue their passions, embrace their identity, increase their confidence, and become proactive agents of change. The mentorship and coaching sessions emphasize to our youth, that despite their past or present circumstances, personal growth and progress are the foundational qualities they need to succeed, both professionally and personally. I am very grateful to our Board of directors, our executive team, our employees, our volunteers, clients, and community members for their significant contributions, service, and support. We are hopeful that our programs and services will expand to reach and impact the lives of more community members, in our city, and in our province.



Kadar Ahmed

Finance & Human Resource Director



A majority of our employees are young people who live in downtown Winnipeg with few employment opportunities.

Therefore, one of the many reasons we founded BCFC was to provide youth with opportunities to flourish and be productive members of the community through our programs. As well as providing employment opportunities, our programs foster a sense of belonging and community, which help keep youth away from negative relationships and friendships. To make our programs comprehensive and unique, we incorporated many elements that could benefit children and youth such as academic tutoring, recreational/sports activities, and personal development sessions. Summer tutoring helped youth and children prevent academic losses by enhancing their quality of education.

We provided sports and recreational activities tailored to their age and abilities. These activities introduced participants to the city's various historical sites and facilities in addition to providing structured time. Our personal development sessions focused on developing self-esteem, confidence, friendships, leadership skills, and behavioural management.

Summer Youth Program

BCFC has been running our Summer Youth Program since 2017



Over 1000 participants served in the last 5 years



Delivered by 35-40 staff & volunteers



More than 200 social impacts in our community

Our program ran from 9 am to 7 pm from Monday to Thursday and Saturdays. We strived to make our program comprehensive and unique with many aspects that the children and youth could benefit from.

The three major components of our program were

- academic tutoring,
- recreational/sports activities,
- and personal development sessions.

We provided academic tutoring to enhance the quality of education of the youth and children to prevent losses in academic performance during the summer. In addition, we also provided recreationally, and sports activities tailored to their ages and needs.

These recreational activities provided structural time to participants, helped introduce them to the various recreational facilities and historical sites in the city. Our personal development sessions included building self-esteem, confidence, friendship, leadership skills, and behavioural management.



Triple I Program

The Inspire, Invest, and Integrate (Triple I) is a pilot program specifically designed to assist immigrant and refugee women who are facing profound difficulties in improving their English language skills due to language, culture, or informational barriers. To bridge this gap, BCFC is providing immigrant and refugee women free English and Citizenship classes via zoom to enable them to improve their English.

INSPIRE



We inspire immigrant and refugee women to learn English and to make a difference in their lives.

INVEST



We invest in immigrant & refugee women to improve their English language to connect with the community in a way that is meaningful and relevant to their cause.

INTEGRATE



We provide a supportive and barrier-free learning environment for immigrant and refugee women to help them settle and integrate into Canadian society.



Family Time

This program intends to support families to become better equipped to help their children learn and grow.

We also hope to help families connect with one another so that they might begin to connect afterwards outside of this group - reducing the social isolation so many families are experiencing due to the pandemic.

We hope families will develop a better understanding of their young children and ways to help their children as they grow here in Canada.

All families who participated were provided with a free snack + craft package each week.



Mentor and Motivate Immigrant Youth

The goal of the program is to motivate and inspire youth to reach their potential while developing leadership skills

This is a series of events held once every month. This program gives youth an opportunity to hear from immigrant and youth role models from diverse cultures and backgrounds. Youth are given an opportunity to see themselves represented in different careers and roles and develop mentor-mentee relationships. This program is a BCFC community initiative and not a funded program.

LEADERSHIP



Representation through leadership.

CIVIC MANAGEMENT



Participation in civic matters to effect change.

DISCUSS



Talk about issues of concern in the community.



Social Support for Seniors Program (SSS)

The Social Support for Seniors program (SSS) is designed to address the social isolation of seniors that has been increasing in our community.

The goal was to allow seniors to socialize, build relationships, and share their life experiences and challenges with each other through weekly gatherings. These sessions helped seniors build friendships, reduce social isolation, build interpersonal support, and contributed to their emotional and mental well-being.



Intergenerational Relations

This program is designed to strengthen intergenerational relationships through discussions, meetings, and conferences between the elders and the youth of the community.

It created an opportunity for the elder individuals of the community to share the challenges and hardships they experienced as first-generation immigrants to Canada.

While youth acknowledged the existing challenges, they were also grateful for the progress made on many fronts. This was also an opportunity for cultural learning, storytelling, and connecting the youth to their heritage, identity, and roots.



Many youths expressed their gratitude for their pioneering efforts which paved the way for them.

SCREEN Program

SCREEN is a community-based resilience and capacity-building program to prevent youth radicalization and violence.

The Program is designed to strengthen youth resiliency, provide safe spaces for free expression, and to promote integration and cross-cultural understanding between diverse community groups.

The key components of the program are

- **Mentorship**
- **Leadership**
- **Civic Engagement**
- **Coaching, intercultural dialogue**
- **Personal wellness**
- **Mental health**

The program utilizes a variety of context-sensitive methods to engage youth meaningfully.

The Program is delivered as an after-school program Monday to Friday and Saturdays.

Elders and spiritual leaders are invited to help improve cultural, traditional, and religious literacy. It creates a platform where youth can challenge stereotypes that render Islam and violent extremism interchangeable and nurtures media literacy among youth to help minimize the internet's role as a driver of radicalization and polarization.

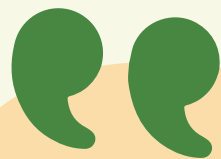
SH. ISMAEL MUKTAR

*The Author of the book:
Manitoba Muslims - History of
Resilience and Growth*

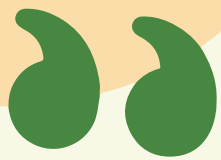
*Speaking about Islamophobia and
Extremism*



The SCREEN Program assists Winnipeg's Muslim youth and families understand their rights and responsibilities as Canadians. SCREEN creates **safe spaces** where everyone, including **disenfranchised youth**, can air grievances and bond to create support networks.



The Screen program improves relationships between law enforcement and the immigrants, Newcomer, Minority, and Muslim communities by providing opportunities for positive interaction.



BCFC is grateful to the **Aurora Family Therapy Centre** for funding the project, and to our partners, the **Kurdish Initiative For Refugees & Rahma Community and Youth Centre**.

For more information about the program, please contact us through our email info@bilalcommunitycentre.ca



Green Team Project

The objective of the BCFC Green Team Project is to increase environmental awareness and sustainability in our community.

The BCFC facility is over
45,000 sq feet
with space for a soccer field,
basketball court, and green
spaces.



BCFC Green Team employees worked to transform our facility into a green space for the community by planting trees, gardening, landscaping, and restoring our fields.



The building and indoor facilities were maintained by recycling, painting, and cleaning using eco-friendly chemicals.



The Green Team also played a role in raising awareness about the importance of saving the environment.



Celebrating Black History Month

Educating, Encouraging, and Embracing (3E) Future Generations

The 3E snapshots below are abbreviated to emphasize the significance of Black History Month:



EDUCATING

Educating is a type of oral event that involves sharing and imparting information to promote awareness about the significance of **Black History Month**. It is a shared heritage that black communities can claim as their own and preserve! It also includes teaching diversity, inclusiveness, and multiculturalism among others. Teaching black history in a culturally responsive way in home and schools using stories, books, black leaders, and their accomplishments going beyond discussions of racism and slavery.



EMBRACING

Embracing Black History Month is about accepting oneself and identity and building that self-esteem, confidence, and decision-making power made at any level to ensure that present and future generations understand the significance of the month. It can also be supporting the beliefs, policies and legal frameworks, and other changes at the national and international level that promote a positive influence on black people's health and wellness, socio-economic, education, and political situation.



ENCOURAGING

Encouraging students and young people to stay committed to Black History Month as an opportunity to reimagine what possibilities lie ahead of them to inspire current and future generations.



Emancipation Day

The bill to recognize August 1 as Emancipation Day was introduced on December 8, 2020 and adopted on March 24, 2021

Recognizing Emancipation Day is to challenge racism and celebrate everything Black Canadians have accomplished. Emancipation Day recognizes not only when slavery was abolished in Canada and other British colonies on August 1, 1834, but also the long struggle against racism and discrimination that continues to this day in Canada and elsewhere.



The poster features a black background with white and green text. At the top left is the logo for Bilal Community and Family Centre (BCFC) with the text 'Bilal Community and Family Centre (BCFC) Presents'. Below this is the title 'EMANCIPATION DAY for people of African descent:'. A central graphic shows a raised fist with a bandage on the knuckle. Text on the left reads 'Reflection on the past, examining the present & hope for the future'. The event details are 'Thursday July 29, 2021 6:00-7:30 pm CST (UTC-5)'. At the bottom, it says 'Streaming Live on: ZOOM YouTube f'. Logos for Canadian Heritage and Patrimoine canadien are at the bottom left, and the hashtag #EmancipationDayCanada is at the bottom right.



FREEDOM

Freedom from slavery is a human right.



EQUALITY

All people are equal, regardless of race, ethnicity, or nationality.



JUSTICE

To seek freedom and equality for all is justice.

Bilal Community and Family Centre holds a virtual national celebration of Emancipation Day Celebration on July 29th in collaboration with Canadian Heritage.

Markus Chambers

Deputy Mayor of Winnipeg

Speaking at the Emancipation Day Event



Somali Heritage Week

We were honoured to host and organize Manitoba Somali Heritage Week Celebrations on July 1st. The celebration was held as a recognition of the Somali community to our rich and diverse Canadian community



HERITAGE

The history and legacy of the Somali people.



DIVERSITY

Different people coming together as one.



CELEBRATION

Celebrating multiculturalism & diversity.





Ruweda Mohamed
Program Participant

“My name is Ruweda Mohamed and I would like to say thank you to the Bilal program that helped me as a person so much to achieve everything that I wanted from this program.

I never in my life imagined that this kind of program will come out and help me a lot in a way, like speaking in front of cameras, speaking in front of people, being a public speaker, getting out of my shy zone, being confident, finding a job, making a reference.

I never imagined myself doing all of that once in my life, because all of the other programs that I went to were not helpful as much as a Bilal program. I am very very very thankful. Thank you so much to the people that are running this program. I really appreciate it.



Fatima Ahmed

Program Participant

My name is Fatima Ahmed. I am Somalian, I grew up in Kenya, a little of bit of ethnicity crisis.

The little memory that I have from Somalia has nothing to do with culture but in Kenya we don't have any of that. But Alhamdulillah, here in Canada, we do have Somali Heritage Week and that is good news for me. Had I not been in the program I wouldn't have known the information... The hosts that were coming every Saturday were talking about their backgrounds related to education and the barriers they were having.

We talked about careers, we talked about how to write a resume from scratch, we talked about the household, how to help your mother, siblings, your father through the house chores, grocery shopping and basically everything

GUEST SPEAKERS

From Maxon Consultants

*Speaking about
Radicalization from a
Christian Faith
Perspective*



DAN MAXON



JUDY WILLIAMS

*From Sustainable Development,
Province of Manitoba*

*Speaking about The
Volunteerism and how to
volunteer in Government
System*

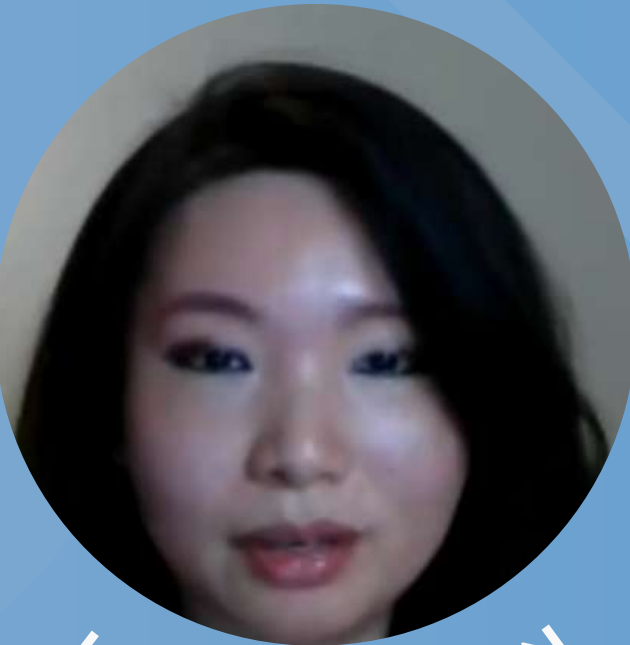
GUEST SPEAKERS

*From the University of
Winnipeg*

*Speaking about
Systemic Racism and
How to Create Change*



DAVID ATEM



JENNIFER CHEN

Winnipeg School Board Trustee

*Speaking about The
Educational Challenges that
Immigrant and Newcomer
Youth Experience*

GUEST SPEAKERS

Clinical Psychologist

Speaking about The Mental Health Aspect of Isolation and how to manage stress



DR. NATASHA ALI



DR. IDRIS AL-BAKRI

President of the Manitoba Islamic Association

Speaking about the importance of Faith

GUEST SPEAKERS

Speaking to our youth about Racism and the role of the government in combating racism



LEAH GHAZAN, MP



THE HONOURABLE AHMED HUSSEN

Speaking about Somali Heritage

GUEST SPEAKERS

*Professor in the
Anthropology Department
at the University of
Manitoba*

*Speaking to our youth
about Racism at our
Emancipation Day
Event*



DR. WARREN CLARKE



MARKUS CHAMBERS

Deputy Mayor of Winnipeg

*Speaking at Emancipation
Day Event*



Thank You to Our Funders, Friends & Supporters

Bilal Community and Family Centre is grateful to our funders and supporters for their financial and in-kind support.



Employment and
Social Development Canada

Emploi et
Développement social Canada



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien

Manitoba



Public Safety
Canada



ST. VITAL PARENT CHILD COALITION



BILAL COMMUNITY AND FAMILY CENTRE (BCFC)

33 Warnock Street, Winnipeg, MB R3E 3L6

bilalcommunitycentre.ca
admin@bilalcommunitycentre.ca

Ph: 204-772-7358 | Fax: 204-272-3397

STANDING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER WORLD