

## Guidelines for Hosting an Ottawa Hijab Solidarity Event Say No to Islamophobia

The goal of hijab day is to foster global religious respect and understanding among communities, and to stand in solidarity with Muslim women, realizing that women in hijab are more likely to experience Islamophobia.



When women are discriminated against for wearing a hijab, all women are hurt. Women wearing a hijab or niqab should be safe and free to access services free of discrimination. Women should not be victimized because for what they choose to wear.

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, City for All Women Initiative (CAWI) is sponsoring a hijab day on-line, [www.cawi-ivtf.org](http://www.cawi-ivtf.org), and a reception at City Hall, Councillors Lounge, 4:00 - 6:00. You may hold your own event on this day, or select another February date. Let us know if you are holding one – [info@cawi-ivtf.org](mailto:info@cawi-ivtf.org).

**If you wish to have a Hijab Day event at your workplace or community location, here are some tips to keep in mind:**

- Form a planning group, comprised of Muslim and women of other faiths and backgrounds, who can support each other to put this together.
- Create a safe space where people can interact, share information and engage in dialogue about what a hijab means.
- Prepare a space with hijabs and pins, where women who choose to try on a hijab will be shown how.
- Women may choose to take a picture of themselves to share with friends and family, and on social media, to express what they learned and to show their solidarity with Muslim women.
- Women may choose to wear the hijab in public or at the workplace to show solidarity, or to experience the day to day challenges that some women wearing hijabs can sometimes face.
- Provide people with written information. See World Hijab Day's website and CAWI's web-site ([www.cawi-ivtf.org](http://www.cawi-ivtf.org)), under Muslim Communities (to be posted soon).
- Consider showing video and testimonials, available on the World Hijab Day web-site.

**Build Awareness, Greater Understanding, Peaceful World**



**City for All Women Initiative (CAWI)** is a unique collaborative of women from diverse communities, organizations, and academia working with municipal decision makers to create a more inclusive city and promote gender equality.