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TOWARDS AN INCLUSIVE SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Symposium on Disability within the Muslim Community: A First of its Kind

-- The Honourable David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, to speak

Muslim-Canadian families that have members with disabilities have often gone without community-based support. However, an upcoming symposium organized by the Canadian Association of Muslims with Disabilities entitled “Planning for the Future-Disability Rights & Responsibilities”, aims to fill this void.

The event will take place on May 24, 2009, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Islamic Centre of Canada located at 2200 South Sheridan Way, Mississauga, ON. At the event, Muslim scholars, lawyers and financial experts will discuss the social, legal and financial realities facing people with intellectual disabilities.

Confirmed opening guest speaker is the Honourable David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. Other speakers include Ms. Shahina Siddiqui, President of the Islamic Social Services Association, Sheikh Abdullah Idris Ali and Imam Ahmad Kutty Resident Scholar from the Islamic Institute of Toronto.

Through this event, families, caregivers and service providers will have the opportunity to network and acquire information relating to wills, trusts and RDSPs in both Islamic and Canadian contexts, and more.

“Many families have questions about intellectual disabilities and Islam. They are also unfamiliar with Canadian law and how best to protect their children’s spiritual and cultural requirements. This symposium intends to bring people together and mobilize them around common experiences and concerns,” points out Rabia Khedr, Executive Director of CAMD.

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For further information, please contact: **Rabia Khedr, Executive Director**