



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

L'honorable / The Honourable Mona Fortier, C.P. / P.C.

Ministre de la Prospérité de la classe moyenne et ministre associée aux Finances, C.P.
Minister of Middle Class Prosperity, and Associate Minister of Finance, P.C.
Députée / M.P. Ottawa-Vanier

Hello Everyone,

I want to start by saying Ramadan Mubarak to you all.

Ramadan marks a sacred time of year for the Muslim community. This month-long journey of fasting and prayer encourages spiritual growth and spiritual contemplation, and a chance to reflect on values such as compassion, gratitude, and generosity.

This time is also an opportunity to celebrate Canada's Muslim community and the ways they have enriched our national fabric everyday.

I know this year's Ramadan will be unlike any other as COVID-19 alters traditional practices and gatherings among Muslim communities in Canada and across the world. Everyone has been urged by local Imams and religious organizations to observe Ramadan a little differently this year, and observe public health and safety enforced measures to reduce the spread of the virus by practicing physical and social distancing.

I am delighted to see that members of the Canadian Muslim community have launched virtual Ramadan events like video-conferenced iftar, discussions and campaigns for charitable online fundraising during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many prayer services will be streamed online for congregants to observe from home.

Thank you to the Ottawa—Vanier Muslim community for your engagement and for respecting public health guidelines.

Sincerely,

Honourable Mona Fortier, P.C.,
Member of Parliament for Ottawa-Vanier
Minister of Middle Class Prosperity, and Associate Minister of Finance