The Eighth Annual Journeys of Migration Event Focuses on Islamophobia in London and Canada

The horrific killing of the Afzaal family in London, Ontario in June of this year has reminded us about the reality of Islamophobia in Canada, and specifically in London. A Statistics Canada report released earlier this year found that the number of police-reported hate crimes in Canada increased by 37 per cent during the first year of the pandemic.

To consider how we can address Islamophobia in our community and in Canada, on Thursday, November 18, 2021, 4:00 – 6:00 PM EST, the Western Centre for Research on Migration and Ethnic Relations, in collaboration with its partners, will hold its Eighth Annual Journeys of Migration event as part of International Week.

The event will begin with a virtual screening of the documentary The Mosque: A Community's Struggle, followed by a panel discussion about the implications for our community and Canada as a whole.

The panel members include:
• Hanny Hassan, Longtime Volunteer in Muslim Community, Interfaith and Broader Society Organizations
• Rumina Morris, Director, Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression, City of London
• Dr. Nosheen Ahmad, London Dentist and Community Advocate
• Sergio Kirby, Documentary Producer
• Mathieu Lajante, Documentary Interviewee

“We know that Islamophobia exists in our community and in Canada,” states Victoria Esses, Director of the Western Centre for Research on Migration and Ethnic Relation, “We must take action to eradicate this poison in our society.”

About the documentary:
On the evening of January 29, 2017, a young man murdered six worshippers and seriously injured five others after evening prayers at a mosque in the Sainte-Foy neighbourhood of Quebec City. Approximately 40 people were reported present at the time. The documentary follows the stories of members of the Muslim community of Sainte-Foy as they struggle to survive and contend with Islamophobia one year after this devastating attack.
This virtual event is free to attend but **registration is required**. Please click [here](#) for the registration page

For media enquiries, please contact:
Victoria Esses  
519 661-2111 ext. 84650  
[vesses@uwo.ca](mailto:vesses@uwo.ca)