



March 21, 2009

Toronto Moroccan Community Better Served Thanks to \$63,600 OTF Grant

Toronto – The Moroccan Association of Toronto (AMDT) is proud to announce that it has received a \$63,600 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) to build its organizational capacity. Khalil Ramal, Parliamentary Assistant to Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, today joined OTF Communications Officer Diane Sigouin-Daniel in congratulating the Association at their annual cultural dinner.

“I am pleased that the Ontario Trillium Foundation is providing a grant to the Moroccan Association of Toronto,” said MPP Ramal. “The support the Foundation is providing for volunteerism is especially exciting because I know how essential volunteers across the Province are to the success and growth of important organizations like this one.”

This two-year grant will be used to build organizational capacity, develop volunteer skills, hire staff and create a resource directory. “This grant will help us strengthen our organizational infrastructure to better serve our community,” said AMDT President Mohamed Smyej. “We are thankful for the Ontario Trillium Foundation’s commitment to cultural groups.”

The annual cultural dinner featured Moroccan, Arabic and African music as well as an exhibition of the painter Abdelhamid Mosbah with a Maghrebin theme. During the evening, the Association also announced its partnership with Cinéfranco film festival to schedule the screening of two Moroccan feature films at the 2009 edition of the festival.

The Moroccan Association of Toronto was established in 2001 to provide social and cultural services for the Moroccan community in the GTA. The Association serves over 600 people each year, provides some social services and a welcoming structure for Moroccan newcomers.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation is an agency of the Government of Ontario. For over 25 years, the Foundation has supported the growth and vitality of communities across the province. It continues to strengthen the capacity of the volunteer sector through investments in community-based initiatives. For more information, please visit www.trilliumfoundation.org.

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