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- For Immediate Release -

CAIR.CAN Evolves – Introducing the National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM)

(Ottawa, Canada – July 6, 2013) The Canadian Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR.CAN), a prominent national Muslim civil liberties organization founded in the year 2000, today proudly unveiled its new name and logo.

"As of July 6, 2013, CAIR.CAN will be known as the **National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM)** or the **Conseil National des Musulmans Canadiens (CNMC)**. This change represents a natural evolution for the organization. Our new name better reflects the Canadian heritage and focus of the organization as well as its ongoing vision to be a leading voice that enriches Canadian society through Muslim civic engagement and the promotion of human rights," says NCCM Board Chair Kashif Ahmed.

"In thirteen short years, CAIR.CAN has developed from a fledgling organization into one whose professionalism and accomplishments in the fields of civil liberties, media engagement, advocacy and outreach have positioned it as a leader in promoting civic engagement and mutual understanding between Canadian Muslims and their fellow citizens. We are proud to move forward from strength to strength under our new name," says NCCM Vice-Chair Khalid Elgazzar.

"We remain the same organization our constituents and partners have come to rely on to represent a broad and diverse spectrum of Canadian Muslims. Our vast body of work is a matter of public record and of which we are very proud. Under our new name, we will both continue and widen our work as successful advocates for civil liberties and champion the role of diverse communities in upholding Canadian pluralism," says NCCM Executive Director Ihsaan Gardee.

Today, the organization is holding concurrent launch events in Ottawa, Toronto and Vancouver to announce the new name to communities and supporters.

CONTACT: Ihsaan Gardee, NCCM Executive Director, 613.254.9704 or 613.853.4111 Kashif A. Ahmed, NCCM Board Chair, 613.254.9704 Khalid Elgazzar, NCCM Vice-Chair, 613.254.9704