



AGA KHAN MUSEUM

NEWS RELEASE

AGA KHAN MUSEUM OPENS ITS DOORS TO NEW CITIZENS FOR FREE THE MUSEUM JOINS THE INSTITUTE FOR CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP'S CULTURAL ACCESS PASS

TORONTO, ON, APRIL 7, 2015 – The Aga Khan Museum has joined the Institute for Canadian Citizenship's Cultural Access Pass (CAP) program to welcome new citizens and introduce them to its diverse collection of more than 1,000 objects and ever-changing roster of exhibitions and programs.

CAP provides Canada's newest citizens, and their children, with a year of free access to more than 1,200 museums, galleries, historic sites, national and provincial parks across the country. The program offers a wealth of Canadian experiences, including exclusive travel discounts with VIA Rail Canada. CAP also connects participating attractions and program partners with a new audience. The addition of the Aga Khan Museum brings the total number of CAP attractions in Ontario to 266.

"The Institute for Canadian Citizenship believes in the cultural inclusion of our newest citizens," said Charlie Foran, CEO of the Institute for Canadian Citizenship. "We're thrilled to add the architecturally stunning and culturally vibrant Aga Khan Museum to our roster of CAP attractions, and we echo its efforts to foster dialogue and promote tolerance and mutual understanding among all peoples."

Opened in September 2014, the Aga Khan Museum in Toronto is the first museum in North America dedicated to the arts of Muslim civilizations. It offers visitors a window into worlds unknown or unfamiliar: the cultural and scientific heritage of Muslim civilizations across the centuries from the Iberian Peninsula to China. Set within a landscaped park and formal garden, the Museum provides something new with each visit: rotating displays of its Permanent Collection; changing temporary exhibitions featuring historical and contemporary art; and an exciting range of live arts and film programming. Joining the Institute for Canadian Citizenship's Cultural Access Pass program will connect the Museum to more than 16,000 new citizen program members in the Greater Toronto Area alone.

"The Aga Khan Museum is pleased to join the Cultural Access Pass program, providing new Canadian citizens with extraordinary evidence of how cultures around the world are connected," says Henry Kim, Director and CEO of the Aga Khan Museum. "CAP complements the Museum's educational mission and its commitment to showing as many people as possible how world heritage has been shaped by the arts of Muslim civilizations—and how these arts vitally inform our world today."

About the Cultural Access Pass Program

The Cultural Access Pass offers Canada's newest citizens a year of free access to cultural experiences, places and spaces across the country. Since its inception in 2008, more than 150,000 new citizens have participated in the program. A new citizen becomes eligible for a Cultural Access Pass the day he/she receives his/her Canadian citizenship. The pass is valid for one year, expiring on the first anniversary of a member's date of citizenship. New citizens must be 18 years of age or older to participate, but each member can use his/her pass with up to four children under the age of 18. To learn more about the Cultural Access Pass, its participating attractions, and VIA Rail Canada's offer, visit culturalaccesspass.ca.

ABOUT THE ICC

Founded and co-chaired by the Rt. Hon. Adrienne Clarkson and John Ralston Saul, and led by Charlie Foran, the Institute for Canadian Citizenship (ICC) is a national, non-profit charity that helps accelerate new citizens' integration into Canadian life through original programs, collaborations and unique volunteer opportunities. While our focus is on encouraging new citizens to take their rightful place in Canada, we want all citizens – new or not – to embrace active citizenship in their daily life. For more information, visit icc-icc.ca or email info@icc-icc.ca. Join our conversation by following us on Twitter [@ICCICC](https://twitter.com/ICCICC).

ABOUT THE AGA KHAN MUSEUM

The Aga Khan Museum in Toronto, Canada has been established and developed by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), which is an agency of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN). The Museum's mission is to foster a greater understanding and appreciation of the contribution that Muslim civilizations have made to world heritage. Its stunning building, designed by Japanese architect Fumihiko Maki, includes two floors of exhibition space, a 350-seat auditorium, classrooms, and public areas that accommodate innovative programming for all ages and interests.

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