



Zoroastrian Society of Ontario

Newsletter – April 2020
Volume 46, Number 10

WHAT'S NEW PRES?

Who could have predicted what was to unfold in March? We were all set to ring in Nowrooz with our customary celebrations – that was not to be this year. While both the Kanoun and ZSO Boards made the right call early on, in line with Health Canada and the Province of Ontario's recommendations to keep our members and community safe, it is a tough time for everyone.

I am however, thankful. Thankful that technology enabled us to connect in a new way through ZSO's YouTube channel. Thankful to our compassionate Mobeds for conducting the live-streamed Panjeh prayers and Nowrooz & Khordad Saal Jashans, the incredible volunteers from the ZSO and Kanoun Boards, the IT & other Committees who made it happen and the devoted attendees who eagerly waited for and attended each of these prayers, observing them in a way that preserved their sanctity. Normally, as part of the Nowrooz celebrations, ZSO recognizes one or two of our members for their selfless service to the community. This will now occur at a later date.

At this uncertain time, we are certain of our shared Zoroastrian beliefs of Humata, Hukta, Hvrashta. Let us continue to think positively, speak positively and act with empathy and kindness towards all. Together, we will overcome this pandemic and emerge stronger than ever to celebrate together once again very soon.

ZSO is indeed fortunate and deeply grateful to the dedicated Zarathushtis volunteering their resources and services in various ways to help those in need. Truly "living the prayer", to borrow a line from our Children's Religion Classes. Please contact Afreed Mistry evp@zso.org, Anahita Ogra vp@zso.org or Zamyad Meherji asstsecretary@zso.org for further information.

ZSO thanks everyone who has renewed their membership for 2020-21 and welcomes aboard our new members. Now more than ever, we count on your support, as it allows ZSO to continue to meet the day-to-day costs that continue unabated despite the Darbe Mehr closure and halt of event-based fund-raising. ZSO assures members also that we are resolved to continue with major initiatives announced earlier, transparently, to meet our goal of ensuring our Darbe Mehr remains a place we'll use with pride and joy for years to come.

As a closing thought: please keep yourself updated, not "over-informed"; be safe, not selfish and most of all, stay cheerful and share cheer with those who need it even more than you do. We will keep you posted and look forward to resuming our events as soon as it is safe to do so.

Tandarosti,
Mashya Amroliwalla
President, Zoroastrian Society of Ontario



MEHRABAN GUIV DARBE MEHR

Telephone: (416) 225-7771

Address: 3590 Bayview Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M2M 3S6

Newsletter by Post - Reminder

Over the last approximately one year, ZSO has in its efforts to be environmentally as well as fiscally responsible, encouraged all members to receive the Newsletter by electronic mail. Since April 1, 2019, all members except for Seniors have been receiving the monthly Newsletter by Email only.

To provide ZSO's Senior members a more gradual change-over to this system, the Board agreed to extend the Newsletter by Post to Senior members until March 2020. This would have meant Seniors would also need to make the switch to receive Newsletters by Email or pay to continue receiving a hard-copy by post starting April 1, 2020.

For some months now, Seniors have raised concerns about this approach and have written as well as spoken with several Board members voicing the same. In short, there are Seniors who have access to and can conveniently use email, while other Seniors find it either impractical or extremely difficult to receive Newsletters by Email, relying solely on paper copies of the Newsletter by Post instead.

The Board of Directors has reviewed these concerns and agreed on the following modified approach that it believes will serve both, ZSO's ecological and financial goals as well as Seniors needs:

Senior members in good standing who receive a printed copy of the Newsletter by Post as of March 2020 are requested to confirm if they wish to continue receiving the same by providing their name and address in writing to:

SECRETARY – Seniors Newsletter by Post
Zoroastrian Society of Ontario
3590 Bayview Avenue, Toronto, ON M2M 3S6
Or via email to: secretary@zso.org **By April 30th, 2020.**

After April 30th:

- Senior members in good standing who have confirmed as above will continue to receive a printed copy of the Newsletter by Post at NO CHARGE.
- Senior members who have NOT confirmed as above need to switch to Newsletter by Email to continue receiving the Newsletter at NO CHARGE.
- Members in good standing who currently receive the Newsletter by Email will continue to do so at NO CHARGE and with no further action required.

For any questions or to make the switch to Newsletter by Email, please contact: secretary@zso.org

Assistance Available

The ZSO hopes you are well and safe amidst the COVID-19 outbreak. If you need assistance to be driven or need groceries to be delivered to you in the Greater Toronto Area please contact our ZSO volunteers listed below. In case of groceries or purchases made on your behalf, please pay the volunteer in cash or by cheque upon delivery. You will get a receipt from them for the purchase total.

Mitra Jam (416)-575-1134	Iraj Jamasbi (416) 402-9063	Fravash Chothia (647) 767-8394
Danesh Patel (416) 439-8444	Sheroy Irani (647) 700-7437	Sherwin Hashemi (647) 708-3608
Khushru Chothia (647) 677-7555	Shezad Paghdwalla (519) 701-8455	Roosbeh Farhadi (416) 809-7669

Financial Services

Free Tax Preparation Service for Seniors and individuals with modest income. Due to social distancing, many people might require assistance for filing their tax return. If you are a senior 65+ or new immigrant or a person with a modest income, and require tax preparation services for SIMPLE returns please contact: Rinavaz Vatcha at 647-967-3287 or email: rina@rvprofcorp.ca

ZSO AGM 2020

The Zoroastrian Society of Ontario's Annual General Meeting will take place on Sunday, July 19, 2020 at 11 AM. Please save the date - we will update in case of any changes due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation. There are 4 positions on the ZSO Board that will be open for nomination. The positions are listed below and the nomination form is attached to the newsletter. Please fill in the form and mail it to the ZSO Secretary at the official address: 3590 Bayview Ave., Toronto, ON, M2M 3S6 by Friday, June 12th at 8:00 PM EST.

Positions open for nomination:

Executive Vice-President – 2 year term
Executive Officer 1 – 2 year term
Assistant Secretary – 2 year term
Treasurer – 2 year term

Membership, Donations, Forms

ZSO reminds members (new and renewing), donors and volunteers to please complete Membership, Donation and/or Expense/Income forms with all submissions. This is key to ensure we maintain strict compliance with audit requirements to protect our charitable status.

The preferred option is to use the online versions of these, especially for Membership and Donations. Manual forms are included in the Newsletter, as well as available for download from the website, if needed. Income/Expense and other administrative forms have been disseminated to all Committees. Please contact asstsecretary@zso.org for a copy if required.

Any cheques sent to ZSO must be accompanied by the appropriate forms duly completed and cheque made payable to "Zoroastrian Society of Ontario". Thank you.

FEZANA Professorship in Zoroastrian Languages and Literature at the University of Toronto

The Zoroastrian Society of Ontario thanks donors who have donated towards the FEZANA University of Toronto Professorship. ZSO encourages the community to continue donating to reach the goal by April 30th and help create the FEZANA Professorship in perpetuity. Details are online on both ZSO and FEZANAs websites. Please note that by checking the "Yes" box under "Donation for Professorship at University of Toronto Fund?" on the ZSO website, the donation will go to the Professorship."

Update on Main Floor Tiling

The Board will discuss if the number of tenders received by the deadline of March 20th is sufficient or to extend the deadline and seek additional ones. The decision and next steps will be communicated to members soon. Thank you for your patience during this time.

Sports Night

The community came together once again for our Sports Night on Saturday, February 29th, hosted by ZSO's new Youth Committee. With great energy, people could compete in games like table tennis, carom, water pong, poker, and plenty more. We were extremely happy to see more of the youth coming out to the event and hope to see more. To top it all we had karaoke to end the event with many diverse types of songs and greatly talented people. Neville Patrawala and Mashya Amroliwalla, Presidents of OZCF and ZSO respectively also came together for an impromptu Karaoke song. We strive to be able to host more of these events with new twists and spice, so please continue attending with bringing more of your friends and family.

Write up courtesy of Fravash Chothia



Family Health Ontario – Open Position

Dr. Mharukh Tamboli is a practicing Family Physician in Ottawa, Ontario, in a Family Health Organization – she will be retiring soon and has offered to give her practice and FHO position to a Doctor qualified to practice in Ontario. Please reach out directly to Dr. Mharukh Tamboli at m_tamboli@hotmail.com

ZSO Scholarship 2019-2020

Attention high school graduates, the application process for the Annual ZSO Academic and Community Service Award is now open. The deadline for receiving completed applications this year is 20th July 2020. All pertinent details are in the application form which can be found [here](#).

Good luck to all the applicants.

ZSO Scholarship Committee

Staying Cyber Safe

Members are reminded that legitimate emails from ZSO are always sent from an address ending with @zso.org such as: communications@zso.org or admin@zso.org. If it comes from other email services such as Gmail, Hotmail or Yahoo!, etc. it was NOT sent by ZSO.

Beware of and report spam to your email service provider, disregard its contents and do NOT click on any links or open any attachments.

Here are a few tips from Microsoft for reducing email spam:

1. **Take advantage of the Junk E-mail Filter in Microsoft Office Outlook:** Office Outlook helps to mitigate the problem of spam by providing the [Junk E-mail Filter](#), which automatically evaluates incoming messages and sends those identified as spam to the Junk E-mail folder.
2. **Limit the places where you post your e-mail address:** Be cautious about posting your e-mail address on public Web sites, such as newsgroups, chat rooms, bulletin boards, and so forth. When visiting public sites, you might want to use an e-mail address that is different from your main e-mail address. Remove your e-mail address from your personal Web site. Whenever you list or link to your e-mail address, you increase your chances of being spammed.
3. **Watch out for check boxes that are already selected:** When you shop online, companies sometimes add a check box that is already selected, which indicates that it is fine with you if the company sells or gives your e-mail address to other businesses (or "third parties"). Clear this check box so that your e-mail address is not shared.
4. **Don't reply to spam:** Never reply to an e-mail message — not even to unsubscribe from a mailing list — unless you know and trust the sender, such as when the e-mail message comes from a service, an online store, or newsletter that you have signed up with. Answering spam just confirms to the spammer that your e-mail address is an active one.
5. **Don't forward chain e-mail messages:** Besides increasing overall e-mail volume, by forwarding a chain e-mail message you might be furthering a hoax — and meanwhile, you lose control over who sees your e-mail address.

Revival of Surat Parsi General Hospital

Sheth Rustomji Dhanjibhai Tarachand Surat Parsi General Hospital which was established on 25th January, 1920 has completed 100 years of its glorious humanitarian services on Roj Mubarak Sarosh Yazad, Mah Mubarak Amardad Ameshashpand, Y Z. 1389 as per Parsi Shahenshahi calendar i.e. on 31st December, 2019.

After completion of 100 years the above Charitable institution is facing crisis of funds to manage its noble services for the community members and is in very very poor state of condition. Situated in Parsi dominated area at Shahpore Surat (just opposite to the Pak Kadami Atash Behram Saheb Surat) on large premises, it has potential to expand its medical services as one of the best multi specialty hospital in the heart of the Surat city.

The Parsi Panchayat request all of the Parsi Zoroastrian community members to prove our ancient tradition and saying, "Parsi, Thy name is charity" and donate generously for the Revival and up gradation of this hospital.

Cheques or Demand Drafts should be written in favour of "Sheth R.D.Tarachand Surat Parsi General Hospital" and forwarded at the address mentioned below:

The President,
Surat Parsi Panchayat,
Shahpore,
Opp. Surat Parsi General Hospital,
SURAT-395003. GUJARAT INDIA

Newsletter Requests

Please note that the deadline for receiving submissions for the ZSO newsletter is the 20th of each preceding month. Any materials received after this date will be published on a best-effort basis.

Editor: Armaity Bamji (newslettereditor@zso.org)

Please note that all requests for inclusions in the ZSO NL should be emailed to newslettereditor@zso.org
Please copy Afreed Mistry at evp@zso.org for approval.

The distribution or reproduction, in part or whole, of the Zoroastrian Society of Ontario's monthly Newsletters by any means or via any media, requires authorization by the Society's Board of Directors. Any unauthorized distribution or reproduction is strictly prohibited.

Miscellaneous

ZSO Contacts:

Emergency situations: Khushru Chothia (416) 677-7555

Messages on the auto-dialer: Rostam Khosraviani (416) 277-7416 email: autodialler@zso.org

- **Please copy Mashya Amroliwalla at president@zso.org for approval**

Renting MGDM hall (for post-funeral prayers/rituals or for private functions): Afreed Mistry at evp@zso.org

Newsletter advertising rates:

Inserts: \$200 Quarter page/Business card: \$55 Half page: \$75 Full page: \$125

Miscellaneous two-liners: \$15

10% discount for 12 consecutive months of advertising.



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www.zstudies.com

اهنودگات - یسن ۳۴ - بند ۱۵

ای خداوند فرد، مرا از بهترین گفتار و کردار بیگاهان تا در پرتو این آموزش با اندیشه ای روشن و قلبی پاک ستایشت را به جای آورم. ای هستی بفش بزرگ با نیروی خویش چنان ساز که از یک زندگی نوین و سرشار از راستی بهره مند گردیم.



نوروزتان پیروز و خجسته

نوروز آمد، پیروز آمد.....

سال ۱۳۹۹ خورشیدی (۳۷۵۸ زرتشتی) با شکوه و بزرگی خود از راه رسید، اما نوروزی که همانند سالهای پیش نمی باشد. بسیاری از همکیشان، دوستان و آشنایان در سرتاسر جهان فاجعه گرفتار آلودگی و پلشتی شده اند که همه را از هم دیگر دور نموده است. امید داریم که با همکاری و پیروی از نکات های بهداشتی هر چه زودتر این بیماری ریشه کن و دوباره با سلامتی به دور هم گرد آییم.

هر روزتان نوروز، نوروزتان پیروز

کانون فرهنگی زرتشتیان انتاریو

دهمندان

نام بردن از فیرواندیشان گرامی، کوپکترین پاسداشتی است که می توان از این هموندان گرامی داشت.

- آقای بابک پور کیانی کمک نقدی ۵۰۰ دلار بابت کلاسهای دینی و ورزشی

پاداش نیک فیرواندیشان را از اهورامزدا فواستاریم



ورزش و سلامتی

با توجه به درخواست وزارت بهداشت کانادا و به منظور جلوگیری از گسترش ویروس کرونا در بین افراد جامعه همه گردهمایی ها و رویدادهای ورزشی برگزار نخواهد شد امید داریم که با همکاری و رعایت دستورالعمل های بهداشتی هر چه زودتر این بیماری ریشه کن و دوباره با سلامتی به دور هم گرد ایم.



راه اندازی کانال تلگرام کانون فرهنگی زرتشتیان انتاریو

کانون فرهنگی زرتشتیان انتاریو در راستای هماهنگی و به روز رسانی هازمان (جامعه) کانال تلگرامی را راه اندازی نموده است. یکی از اهداف این کانال، آگاهی رسانی آموزه های اشوزرتشت و باور زرتشتیان همگام با بینش راستین اشوزرتشت می باشد. امید داریم تا با همراهی شما در رسیدن به این هدف پیروز باشیم. از همه گرامیان خواهشمندیم تا در جهت گسترده نمودن این کانال لینک و نشانی این درگاه را به دوستان، آشنایان و خواستاران دیگر آگاهی رسانی نمایید. خوشنود خواهیم شد تا پیشنهاد و پرسش های خویش را به ایمیل آدرس kanoun@zso.org برای ما ارسال فرمایید.

<https://t.me/zsokanoun> :

کانون فرهنگی زرتشتیان انتاریو - Ontario Zoroastrian Cultural Kanoun

تماس با ما

انتقادات، نظرات و پیشنهادات سازنده خود را با ما با ایمیل آدرس kanoun@zso.org در میان بگذارید.

گردهمایی ماهیانه بانوان

با توجه به درخواست وزارت بهداشت کانادا و به منظور جلوگیری از گسترش ویروس کرونا در بین افراد جامعه همه گردهمایی ها و رویدادهای ورزشی برگزار نخواهد شد



NOMINATION FORM – 2020

(Please print or write clearly and complete all sections on both sides of this Form)

We, the undersigned, being members in good standing of the Zoroastrian Society of Ontario (ZSO), nominate the following member of ZSO who is a permanent resident of Ontario

_____ of _____,
(Name of member nominated) (City)

for election to serve on the Board of Directors as:

(Position)

Dated at _____ this _____ day of _____, 2020.
(City) (Date) (Month)

(Proposer's Name)

(Proposer's Name)

(Proposer's Signature)

(Proposer's Signature)

I, _____ (Nominee), consent to this Nomination, and agree to abide by the Constitution and By-laws of the ZSO and all Resolutions passed by the members of the ZSO at all General Meetings.

(Nominee's Signature)

Please Note:

1. For this nomination to be valid, it must be delivered to the attention of the "ZSO Secretary" before 08:00 p.m. on Friday, June 12th, 2020, at the registered office of the ZSO, address above
2. The Nominee must complete the Bio-data Form overleaf
3. The Nominee and the Proposers must be members in good standing (up to date with their Membership Fees) on the date that this Nomination Form is signed



NOMINEE'S BIO-DATA FORM – 2020

Nominee's Name:

Member of ZSO since:

**Past Social/Community
Activities:**

Education Background:

**Professional Background/
Occupation:**

**Objectives I'd like to achieve if
elected:**

Dated: _____, 2020



ZOROASTRIAN SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

3590 BAYVIEW AVENUE, TORONTO, ONTARIO M2M 3S6

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership Application: ☐ Renewal ☐ New Member Membership Year April 1st 20____ - March 31st 20____

Membership Category/Fees

<input type="checkbox"/> Family	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> Family senior
Includes children under the age of 18	Non-student over age 18	Full time student age 18-25	Age 65 and over	Both spouses age 65 and over
\$100	\$60	\$30	\$30	\$50

Applicant Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
Spouse Last Name: _____ Spouse's First Name: _____
Address: _____ Apartment/Suite# _____
City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____
Home Phone: (____) - ____ - ____ Cell Phone: (____) - ____ - ____
Email: _____ Age: _____ Signature _____

Dependent Information:

First & Last Name	Age

Select your communication methods: Auto dialer (US & Canada), E-Mail and SMS Messages (SMS within Canada Only)

Auto dialer voice messages: ☐ Home ☐ Cell ☐ Spouse Cell: _____

SMS Messages: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Newsletter: ☐ Email _____ ☐ Spouse Email: _____ ☐ Regular Mail

(Regular mail will incur a \$5/month charge – payable annually for a total of \$60. Please include this cost in your membership fees below. Seniors can avail of this service at no additional cost.)

Total Enclosed: Cash \$ _____ Cheque \$ _____

(All cheques payable to "Zoroastrian Society of Ontario" and mailed to Attn: ZSO Treasurer (Membership Form) 3590 Bayview Avenue, Toronto, ON, M2M 3S6). Please note the bank will **NOT** accept cheques payable to "ZSO".

☐ I have reviewed the ZSO Constitution & Bylaws* and agree to abide by them (*available on the ZSO website zso.org)

NEW MEMBERS must be introduced by two ZSO members in good standing and approved by the ZSO Board of Directors (BOD).

Existing ZSO Member

Print Full Name _____

Signature _____

Existing ZSO Member

Print Full Name _____

Signature _____

Approved by the ZSO BOD

☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature _____