

NEWSLETTER

COMMITTEE WORK

at a glance ————”

▶ Communication & Engagement

Our Social Sundays are now themed! Our seniors, youth, and newcomers will be the focus of our upcoming events so stay tuned! We would like to thank our community businesses who are donating their food and resources to make these events free for all. We also want to thank all the volunteers who helped at the meet & greet, and those who signed up for committee work.

▶ Membership Contribution

We are working on collecting data to conduct a census for our Druze community in Alberta. Please sign up on the website to support this initiative. At our last Social Sunday, we sold 26 memberships, Thank you! We will also be giving our website a new look and new features. Make sure to bookmark edmontondruze.ca to stay updated.

▶ Strategic Planning

This committee is working in collaboration with all board members to help the DAE achieve its mission, to work with the community and strengthen the bond amongst Druze people. We are working diligently to establish support from stakeholders for the betterment of our association. Grant writers needed!

▶ Education & Youth

We are planning some large scale youth retreats and special programs for Arabic language for all! Stay tuned for special announcements. We won't spoil the surprise but what's coming will sell out fast. In preschool news, we are planning our annual culture week and cash calendar fundraisers. Support our youth, participate in our events!

▶ Hall Maintenance

We are keeping an eye on the safety and security of our hall operations. Our rentals are not pure income, after we pay for cleaning and utilities, we need to pay for repairs too! Support our hall by booking with us. New pricing coming soon. We want to thank Sam Reslen for all his help supporting the hall and the new board.

“ ———— New Year New Project

Our vision for the new year is unity for our community, and healthy future generations of youth coming together under the DAE umbrella. Including our seniors in our plans is an integral part of our mission. Our seniors have given so much to us and it's time we give back.

New immigrants are also a major focus of our future plans. We want to be there for all Druze who come from abroad and make them feel supported and part of a strong community. Syrians and Lebanese will be welcome at our hall for services and events. Stay tuned for more information coming soon.

Pre-registrations for our PRESCHOOL for the 2023-2024 school year will start in February. Sign up on the website to secure your spot. Only 40 spots will be available.

We are so excited and proud of EDYA - Edmonton Druze Youth Association. We will be collaborating with them on some big projects. Don't miss out!

FEATURED: BUSINESS & FINANCE

“Patience and diligence, like faith, remove mountains.”



THANK YOU DONORS

Thank you Nezar Kamaledine for sponsoring our preschool and donating to-date \$2000. Thank you to the following community members for their donations at our recent Social Sunday: Ayoub Ajab, Fouad Yaghi, Yasmina and Amer Akl, Zena El-Onaissi, Bayan El-Jurdi and Family

SUGGESTION BOX

Ladies events: Sahra, Karaoke night, bookclub, general counselling classes such as parenting, marriage, family, etc...

Family Feud: Where the grand prize is ex.\$2000, but participants pay (members get discount), broadcast live and if successful, advertise to all non-Druze and make it a hall event to run monthly (Edmonton Family Feud). For youth, get a rental company to set up laser tag to bring them together.

Younger kids (4-12) participate in a friendly competition, depending on their level of Arabic, have them go up against each other and play exciting games.

Youth can also plan an activity where they will learn what life was like before technology existed to see how back then, how hard they had to work to achieve their goals.

KEEP THE FEEDBACK COMING

Hello Community!

We hope everyone is having a wonderful start to the new year!

We want to start off by saying what a privilege it was to be surrounded by members of our community at our past Social Sunday. We appreciate everyone who showed support, and we hope this unity exists forever.

We want to give a shout out to our incredible business and finance volunteers. We have been at this for a month, and they have already tapped into resources in our community. As they so generously donated their time, we have witnessed a snowball effect, receiving help from many Druze business owners lending their supplies or that have monetarily contributed. Thank you Rajaa Berro, Ali Aladdine, Ayman Abusaid, and Eyad Mahmoud for taking initiative and going the extra mile.

We want to take a moment and highlight the short-term and long-term agenda for Business and Finance with all members of our community.

Working on.....

- Revaluations of expenses and source of income(s).
- Currently, our primary income is generated from our hall rentals from outside of our community. We hope to curb this direction to our Druze community, with new hall rental pricing, coming soon.
- Increasing the number of annual membership contributions- in a community of thousands we have less than a hundred paid memberships. We have added an affordable cost for singles, as we strive to gain the support of our youth.
- Re-establishing the memorial fund. We want to reassure our seniors and families who have experienced loss that we will have the Druze Hall open for the community.
- Investing in our website, improving the accessibility of payment processing and communication with our community.
- In collaboration with our committees, we will manage grant funding accordingly to finance events, youth retreats, seniors, and support newcomers.

Our Future..... Sustaining it all.

- Carrying on with organized day to day financial administration, monitoring all transactions.
- Financial transparency with the community.
- Continuity with donations, and annual memberships.
- Developing long term connections with professionals and business owners in our community.
- Remain in good standing with future government associated funding to any avenue applied for.

Thank you,

Business and Finance Committee