

Sayed Abouchakra speech during raising the Lebanese Flag at Queen's Park

Nov. 22, 2012

On this great occasion, raising the Lebanese Flag at Queen's Park, I stand in front of you as a very proud Canadian who came to Canada over 22 years ago as a very proud Lebanese

Honourables
Distiquished Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It so happened that the shape and area of Lebanon is, to a great extent, similar to the shape and area of the GTA, with a difference as the population of Lebanon is a little less than the population of the GTA.

Lebanon is in an area of the world where there may be no tornadoes, no hurricanes or the like, but it is in the Middle East, the area that may not have such natural storms but has been unstable politically since years and years especially having its location as the centre and corridor between Europe, Asia and Africa. Great nations, from the big powers to the big countries to the Great 7, have interest in Lebanon. Why? Because of its importance, since Lebanon to the area is like the GTA to Canada. The GTA is a commercial, distribution, financial and economic centre in Canada. So is Lebanon to the Arabic World around it, hence its importance as a key country.

The Flag, when designed by the people of a country, in general, reflects certain meanings. It so happened that our Lebanese Flag, with 2 red stripes on its sides and a tree (the cedar tree) in the centre of its white area, has a resemblance, in a way, to our Canadian Flag with red stripes and the Maple Leaf in the centre of its white area.

Lebanese people are known of their loyalty to the country they live and work in, even when they are not citizens of the country. In Canada, the Lebanese live and work and are citizens of this Great Country, and as such they are not only loyal but they are also Patriotic, Nationalistic and Flag-waving.

God Bless Lebanon, God Bless Canada.