

This is our time



the fire within



"Look upon the heavens and the earth. God made them not by dust and water. Look upon the fires and behold therein how they were created."

Zarathushtra

There is a fire within all of us. The time is now to let this light proudly shine for all the world to see.



“We are face to face with our destiny and we must meet it with high and resolute courage. For us is the life of action, of strenuous performance of duty; let us live in the harness, striving mightily; let us rather run the risk of wearing out than rusting out.”
Theodore Roosevelt

Vision

The vision of the Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation (OZCF) is to build a North American consecrated Atashkadeh with the enthroning of a consecrated Atash-e-Adaran fire.

Atashkadeh is the Persian term for a place of worship that enthrones the holy fire. In India, this is known as an Agiary. Today, Parsi and Iranian Zoroastrians come together to build this consecrated cornerstone of our religious community. For indeed, it is places of worship that form the basis, or the framework, of a community’s wellbeing and survival – there is a sense of communion in the ritual liturgies that transcend generations and bring us all closer to the guiding light of our faith: good thoughts, good words and good deeds.

Our **Atashkadeh** will be a place for people to worship, convene, visit, and learn – for new immigrants, visitors to our faith and our community. We will train and ordain priests to serve our cherished community. And, by building this **Atashkadeh**, we are creating a dedicated space where our children can learn more about their heritage; be versed in their religion; and create a place of pride to share with friends and those of other faiths and beliefs.

A purified, eternal flame, collected from the fire within households of an Athravan (Priest), Rathaestaran (Warrior), Vastroyosan (Agriculturist) and Hutokhsan (Artisan), will burn proudly in our Atash-e-Adaran.

Phase One: a consecrated **Atashkadeh** will be built that will house an Atash Dadgah fire. It will be equipped with Yasnagah and Bareshnum facilities to ordain priests and perform the higher liturgical ceremonies and elaborate prayers such as Vendidad and Yasna.

Phase Two: the consecrated Atash-e-Adaran fire will be enthroned within the consecrated **Atashkadeh** and a full time Mobed will be required to look after the fire.

Our new **Atashkadeh** will be a celebrated and treasured focal point to enhance our religious traditions and preserve our heritage for generations to come.



As the largest diaspora of Zoroastrians outside of India, we have a vision. Together we can build a consecrated **Atashkadeh** in North America, in homage to our heritage and as a beacon of light to future generations.

Where we are today

Founded in 2002, the mission of the OZCF is to ensure the preservation of our rich culture and heritage, and promote awareness and recognition of our ancient Zoroastrian religion, within and outside our community, from generation to generation.

The Atash-e-Adaran is an integral part of this mission. Our proposed Adaran fire will be a point of interest where Zoroastrians globally can connect.

The OZCF is well positioned to successfully lead and fulfill this initiative in the North American diaspora.

- We own the 10 acres of land where the **Atashkadeh** will be built.
- We live in a geographic area (the Greater Toronto Area) that is home to the largest Zoroastrian Community in North America, with 5,000 Zoroastrians living within a 60 km radius.
- We are blessed that within this area there is the largest number of ordained priests in North America able to serve our community and support our **Atashkadeh** 24 hours a day / seven days a week.
- Since 2004, our vibrant community has raised the funds to purchase the land and build a centre that is at the heart of many of our community's celebrations and events.

Since 2013, the OZCF has been debt-free. This is our time, to fully embark on a CAD 3 million fundraising campaign to build an **Atashkadeh** with Atash-e-Adaran for our Zoroastrian faith.

Please be a part of history and join us in this noble and historic endeavour.

What we know...

We know, as today's society shifts and changes, many of the world's religions are shrinking. We, too, have a challenge – our numbers, which were once in the millions, are now less than 200,000 globally. We know that to sustain our heritage and our religion, building a consecrated place of worship is integral to this process. Our children are the future of our religion and, as donors to this campaign, it is our legacy that will ensure our heritage will be sustained.

This is our time

What will the future hold...

We have a vision – a vision fueled by the fire within each of us to keep our religion and our heritage vibrant.

In addition to our centre and our **Atashkadeh**, which will form the heart of our community, in future years we envision a complete, self-sustaining complex devoted to ensuring Zoroastrianism thrives in North America and providing a true sense of community.

This vision includes:

- A 40,000 sq ft Seniors' retirement complex complete with health & medical support services
- An enlarged Banquet Hall & Cultural Centre (15,000 sq. ft)
- A Zoroastrian Library, Museum, and Education Centre
- Revenue generating Commercial & Office building with ground floor retail space (70,000 sq ft)
- Recreation facilities and green space
- Powered by renewable energy

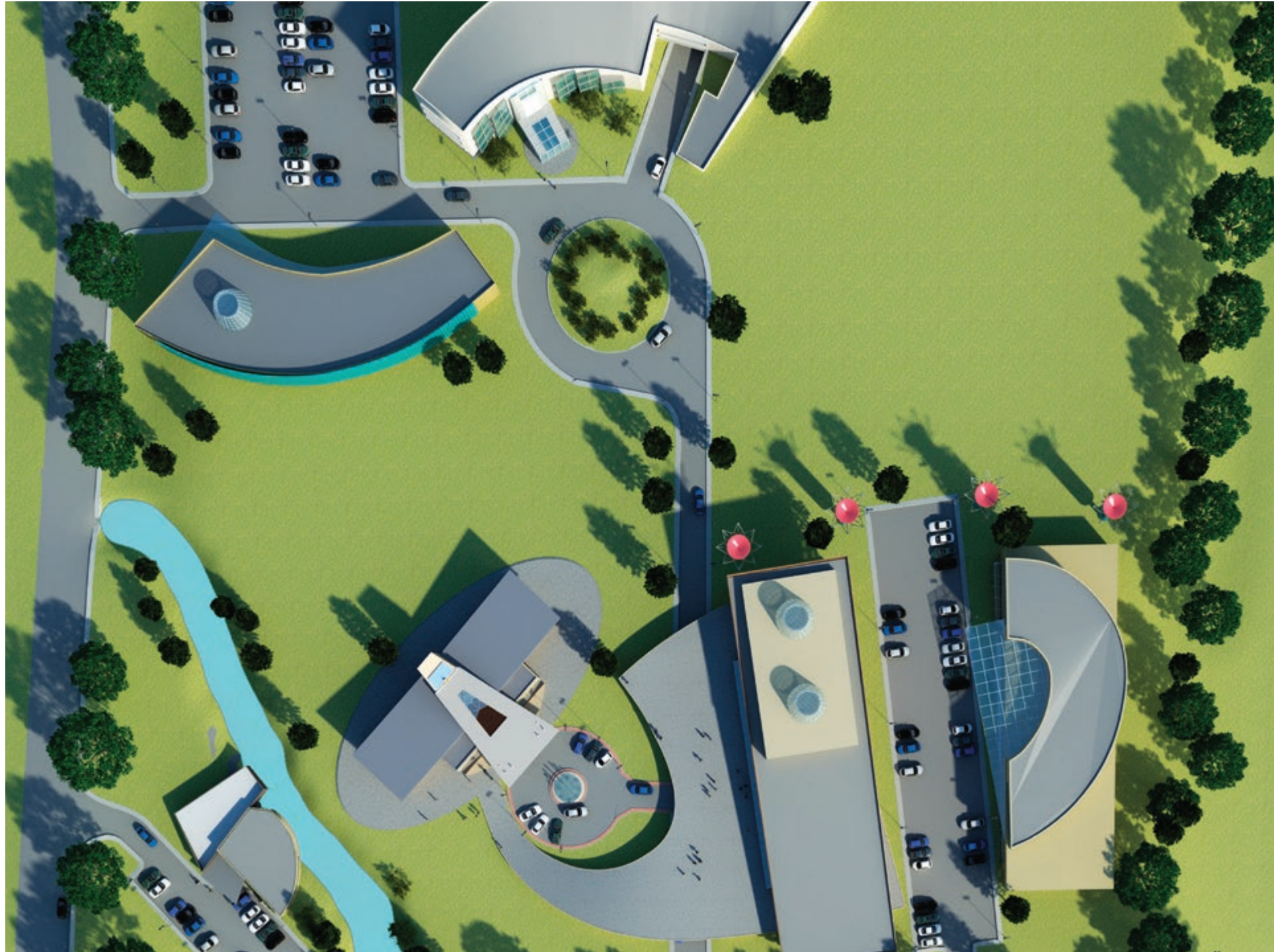
"I am proud of my country, India, for having produced the splendid Zoroastrian stock, in numbers beneath contempt, but in charity and philanthropy perhaps unequaled and certainly unsurpassed."

Mahatma Gandhi

'FUTURE CONCEPT'

This is our time to create a legacy for our children, and our faith.





“With an open mind, seek and listen to all the highest ideals. Consider the most enlightened thoughts. Then choose your path, person by person, each for oneself.”

Zarathushtra

Building the fire within

You can play an integral part in the history, and the future, of our faith in North America with your gift in support of our CAD 3 million campaign. All gifts or sponsorships of more than \$5,000 will receive special naming opportunities and we would be privileged to work with you to design a recognition plan to honour and acknowledge your gift.

We invite you to write to gifting@ozcf.com to discuss these leadership giving opportunities. There will also be an “In Memory” recognition for those who would like to honour departed loved ones.

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good thoughts
good words
good deeds

How you can help

Major Donor	\$1 M plus
Kebla Donor	\$500,000
Prayer Hall Donor	\$400,000
Yasnagah Donor	\$300,000
Prayer Room Donor	\$200,000
Bareshnumgah Donor	\$100,000
Nahn Room Donor	\$50,000
Office Donor	\$50,000
Servery Donor	\$50,000

Patrons to the Atashkadeh (Agiary)	\$100,001plus
Diamond Donor	\$50,001 to \$100,000
Platinum Donor	\$25,001 - \$50,000
Gold Donor	\$10,001 - \$25,000
Silver Donor	\$5,001 -\$10,000
Bronze Donor	\$2,500 - \$5,000

In Memory Donor	\$1,000 plus
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Buy a Square Foot	\$500
Buy a Fixture(s)	\$250 - \$999
Monthly Atashkadeh Building Fund Supporter	\$30/\$75/\$150

A prominent Donor Wall will be a feature within our **Atashkadeh** (Agiary) honouring those who will help to build it. Naming opportunities for specific rooms also exist. Please refer to the gift table and contact gifting@ozcf.com to discuss how you would like to be recognized at your preferred gift level.

All gifts are most gratefully accepted and all donations will receive an official tax receipt.

Our Atashkadeh

Our **Atashkadeh** will be the only place of worship, outside of India and Iran, to ordain priests.

This is an extremely important and critical advantage. No longer will prospective young priests be required to travel outside North America to be ordained.

We will create an opportunity to train for the priesthood here in North America, in a geographical area that welcomes more immigrants than any other city in Canada. Furthermore, we will do so in an environment that encourages more young people into the priesthood with ease of access to training.

As Zoroastrians, one of our purposes is to “be among those who renew the world...” We must start within our own faith by renewing what Zoroastrianism means for our younger generation.

We will welcome everyone, subject to following certain customs, conduct and etiquette. This is a House of Ahura Mazda, open to all, a place to feel God's universal presence, to experience spiritual peace, to worship and join a community in prayer. The inner sanctum sanctorum (Kebla) is restricted to ordained priests only. While priests are being ordained and during the performance of the inner liturgical ceremonies, the Yasnagah is restricted to only ordained priests who have undergone the Bareshnum ceremony.



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Contact Us

For more information on this project please contact
Phil Sidhwa, Chair, Place of Worship Advisory Committee
philsidhwa@ozcf.com

For fundraising opportunities please contact
Marzi Byramjee, Chair, Fundraising
marzibyramjee@ozcf.com



1187 Burnhamthorpe Road East, Oakville, Ontario L6H 7B3
www.ozcf.com