

OPEN SPACE FORUM

COMMUNITY MASHURA REPORT



31 August and 1 September

Hagley Sports Centre

Imagine a New Zealand where all Muslims are included and able to flourish.

What do we need to do to get there?



4 Rules of Open Space:

- 1) Whoever comes are the right people
- 2) Whatever happens is the only thing that could have
- 3) Whenever it starts is the right time
- 4) When it's over it is over.

One law of open space – the law of two feet – if you are not learning and not contributing, move on to another opportunity.

And.....be prepared to be surprised!

Words to capture the energy of the first day

“The Open Space session started with a recitation from the holy Quran, then a supplication prayer for those who departed us on the 15th of March mosque shootings.

After all participants were seated. The room became quiet and the mood was that of anticipation for what the day ahead would bring. Margaret unlocked this mood into energy by merely walking along the inside circle of the seating arrangement and looked people in the eyes while gracefully smiling. Every individual felt they were present, they were one and they were many. The crowd present was distilled to individual humans and every human knew they all were willing.

Then, Margaret explained how Open Space works, talked about the four rules for Open Space and how people can contribute their ideas, have them recorded and how those sessions will be reported back to the community.

The interval after Margaret's explanation is noteworthy. After all, whoever came to participate were the right people according to the first rule of Open Space!. This realisation manifested in a mysterious

pause. But the brief silence ran contrariwise to that hesitation one resorts to when detaching oneself from participation. The continua between the one and the many were consolidating as if the collective were mustering its willpower to steer forward. The mood turned into resolve, the peace into energy.

Then the day started and one by one, people came up to announce their ideas. One by one, the room became abuzz with an incessant stream of thoughts, reflections and ways to move ahead” — Hisham Aldai 2/9/2019

Purpose of this document and proposed next steps

This report captures the notes taken at each of the sessions held throughout the weekend. It lists the key points, ideas and the proposed next steps from each session. Names and contact information have been removed to protect the privacy of the individuals involved.

Many sessions took place and you may have missed a group you would like to be a part of. The organisers have the contact list of the individuals involved in each session and the contact information for the facilitators.

Our hope is that this document serves as another step for the community moving forward, that it acts as a reference document that captures honestly the beautiful intentions that were generated over the weekend.

There is always something missed, and someone unable to attend. As mentioned above, if you did miss out and want to get involved, please contact Rob. We ask for your forgiveness and understanding for any shortcomings on our part. We would like to thank you all for your attendance and pray for the success of the many projects discussed in this document.

This is an abridged version of the full document that contains the raw notes recorded of the discussions that took place. If you would like a copy of the full notes, please contact Rob Dewhirst: radewhirst@snap.net.nz. Below is a list of the topics that were discussed at the forum.

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