



COPTIC MUSEUM OF CANADA

Fall 2018 Vol. 12 / No. 3

Museum Honours Father Marcos

On Saturday December 15, 2018 Father Marcos and over 40 members of his extended family, friends, St. Mark's Church clergy and Museum members gathered together in the Museum lobby to unveil a plaque in his honour.

We reproduce below, Labib Mousa's address explaining the Museum Board of Directors' decision to honour Father Marcos:

Welcomed everyone and specially Fr. Marcos to this first of several actions the Museum Board of Directors are taking to honour you for your vision to create a Coptic museum in Canada and your inspirational leadership which has touched many of us.

We all know how much Fr. Marcos has contributed to our Church in Canada but I want to mention that he has had several public recognitions for his service as the first Coptic Orthodox priest to be commissioned to North America and also for his role related to the establishment of a Coptic museum in Canada.



- In 1999 Who's Who in Ontario 1995-1999 published Fr. Marcos's biography recognizing his service as the first Coptic priest commissioned to Canada and his pioneer work for the Coptic community.
- In 2007 the Lovers of Coptic Heritage in Egypt awarded him a "Certificate of Thanks and Recognition" for Fr. Marcos' "outstanding work in the field of Coptic Heritage" making particular reference to the establishment of the Museum.
- In 2012 Governor General of Canada presented Fr. Marcos with The Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Medal which reads "in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty's Accession to the Throne and in recognition of your contribution to Canada."

At its September 22, 2018 meeting the Museum Board of Directors passed a motion to honour Fr. Marcos' role in establishing a Coptic museum in Canada. The Board also wanted this motion to be placed on a plaque at the entrance hall to the Museum alongside the plaque commemorating His Holiness Pope Shenouda III's inauguration of the Museum in 1996.



The plaque reads:

"In appreciation for his inspired leadership, on 22 September 2018 the Board of Directors voted to confer the title of *Founder and President Emeritus upon Father Marcos A. Marcos*

In recognition of his unwavering commitment to realize his vision for a Coptic museum in Canada, in keeping with His Holiness Pope Shenouda III's wish that the museum be a steward of the Coptic cultural heritage in North America."

The Museum Board has decided to take the following actions:

- The "Welcome" panel inside the Museum has been updated to include the text of the plaque. The picture of Father Marcos also has him wearing the Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Medal.
- The Museum's Facebook is scheduled to post this special day.
- The Museum's Fall 2018 Newsletter will feature their Board's decision to honour Father Marcos.
- A special link in the Museum's website will be added describing Fr. Marcos' passion for and contribution to Coptic cultural heritage.
- A long term action is to create a scholarship fund in Fr. Marcos' name for studies in Museum Management and/or Coptic Studies.

Thank you for celebrating this special occasion with us.
Labib Mousa, President, Museum Board of Directors



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