November 2, 2016

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

As President of the Goldfields’ Progressive Jewish Community and member of the City of Bendigo’s Interfaith Council I am writing in support of the Bendigo Islamic Community Centre, adding my voice to that of KSZ Committee member and Founding President, The Hon. Howard Nathan QC.

Reflecting the multicultural values of Australia, it is pleasing to witness a diverse Islamic community congregating together and reaching out to the wider community. Already La Trobe University has seen fit to give the community a temporary home and now the four-hundred-strong community, forty per cent of whom are in the medical profession, will be able to worship and associate together in their own space, which I understand will also be open to non-Muslims.

The word “islam”, like the Hebrew word “shalom”, has at its root the connotation “peace”. The Islamic community of Bendigo preaches and practises peace. It adds lustre to the spiritual life of Bendigo and region.

Peace be on the Islamic community. May it thrive, may it continue to counter misconceptions about Islam and may it continue to be a portal for interfaith understanding in Northern Victoria.

Yours sincerely

(Dr) David I Kram (0412) 114 725

