



*Angela Kennedy
Trustee Ward 11*

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To: Regular Board Meeting, March 24, 2022

From: Garry Tanuan, Trustee Ward 8

Subject: NOM: SRI LANKAN NEW YEAR DAY APRIL 14, 2022

MOVED BY: Garry Tanuan, Toronto Catholic District School Board.

WHEREAS: Toronto is home to a large and vibrant Sri Lankan community. According to the 2016 Census, **152,595** people reported themselves as being of Sri Lankan ethnicity;

WHEREAS: New Year is the biggest of all celebratory festivals in the Sri Lankan community and falls in the month of April;

WHEREAS: Since the first Sri Lankans arrived in Canada in the 1950's, Sri Lankan-Canadians have made significant contributions to many industries ranging from Civil Service, University Academia, Medical and Engineering Professions, Agriculture and Agri Business, Computer Sciences, Banking, Arts and Crafts, Service, Manufacturing, and many other Industries. Their contribution to Canada and to Toronto is immeasurable;

WHEREAS: Sri Lankan culture has been embraced in Ontario since at least 1898 when a town in Ontario was named Ceylon; and

WHEREAS: Sri Lankan New Year acknowledgement will create a fitting opportunity to showcase the contributions made by Sri Lankan Canadians to the advancement of the TCDSB while it will also create a forum for ALL students of Sri Lankan heritage, regardless of ethnicity, to feel involved and acknowledged.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The TCDSB declare and recognize April 14, 2022, as Sri Lankan New Year Day and to annually recognize Sri Lankan New Year Day; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: Recognition in the form of a poster be displayed on the TCDSB website and where appropriate, flyers provided to schools for display. On this digital poster, approved by the Asian Heritage Committee, a link is provided to access information on traditions and customs related to the Sri Lankan New Year tradition.

Garry Tanuan
Trustee Ward 8
