



**CONSULATE GENERAL OF SRI LANKA
TORONTO, CANADA**

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Board of Trustees
Toronto Catholic District School Board
80 Sheppard Avenue East
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Recognition of Sri Lanka New Year in April by the Toronto Catholic District School Board

As the Consul General of Sri Lanka in Toronto, it is my pleasure to support a Motion to have the Sri Lankan New Year, celebrated in April every year, acknowledged by the Toronto Catholic District School Board.

Sri Lankans have been immigrating to Canada since the 1940s. Cities across the country including Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal, Charlottetown and Calgary have been organizing cultural events in April to celebrate the Aluth Avurudu (also known as New Year) with the participation of many distinguished guests.

Over the last 60-70 years, naturalized immigrants from Sri Lanka have made Canada their home and contributed significantly to the economy, the political landscape, and the social and cultural landscape of Canada. There are many successful Sri Lankan-Canadian business owners providing jobs to thousands. They also work at various levels in educational institutions, healthcare and many other professions contributing to the growth and prosperity of Canada.

The Sri Lankan New Year in April is an important time for Canadian-Sri Lankans to celebrate and recognize Sri Lankans of all ethnicities in Canada and their contributions to our society. My sincere hope is that you will support this Motion and acknowledge the significance of the Sri Lankan New Year in April for years to come.

Sincerely,

Thushara Rodrigo
Consul General of Sri Lanka