



கனடியத் தமிழர் தேசிய அவை
National Council of Canadian Tamils
Conseil National de Tamouls Canadien

For Immediate Release

May 6, 2021 @ 3.00 PM

Bill 104: History is made today with the Ontario government passing the Tamil Genocide Education Week Act.

Toronto: On May 6th, 2021, Bill 104, Tamil Genocide Education Week Act, which was tabled by MPP Vijay Thanigasalam unanimously passed at the Ontario Legislative Assembly. This bill proclaims the seven-day period in each year ending on May 18 as Tamil Genocide Education Week. During that period, all Ontarians will have the opportunity to educate themselves and increase their awareness about the Tamil Genocide and other genocides that have occurred in world history.

This acknowledgement not only seeks to honour the lives that were lost with the Tamil Genocide, but also gives a sense of hope to those who have suffered life-long intergenerational trauma and represents the first step to healing and reconciliation. By recognizing the Tamil Genocide, we affirm our collective desire to maintain awareness of this genocide and other genocides to prevent such crimes against humanity from happening again.

When this Bill was introduced by MPP Vijay Thanigasalam, the community collectively rallied in convincing the elected members, including Cabinet Ministers, MPPs and all-party leaders. The advocacy was led and coordinated by the National Council of Canadian Tamils (NCCT), Canadian Tamil Youth Alliance (CTYA) and Tamil Youth Organization (TYO). In our continued collective effort, many organizations, individuals, and volunteers took part in this effort. The Canadian Tamil Academy (CTA), Arivaham Canada, Mississauga Tamil Association (MTA), Brampton Tamil Association (BTA), Markham Tamil Organization (MTO), Scarborough Tamil Association (STA), Ottawa Tamil Association (OTA), and Quebec Tamil Development Association (QTDA) continue to support our advocacy effort.

This bill has passed despite many oppositions from the perpetrators, genocide deniers and the ones who are looking to take advantage of this bill for their personal



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gains. This is a community effort supported by all elected officials of Ontario Government. We would like to thank Premier Doug Ford, Cabinet Ministers, MPPs and all parties in getting the bill proclaimed at the Ontario Legislative Assembly.

Thank you!

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For more information contact: National Council of Canadian Tamil

Phone: 416.830.7703 | Email: info@ncctcanada.ca