



May 23, 2025

NCCT sincerely thanks Councillor Parthi Kandavel and Toronto City Council for historic motion to build Tamil Genocide Monument in Scarborough

The National Council of Canadian Tamils (NCCT) extends its deepest gratitude to Councillor Parthi Kandavel and the City of Toronto for the unanimous passage of a motion on May 22, 2025, to work in partnership with the Tamil Canadian community to build a Tamil Genocide Monument in Scarborough, Ontario.

This momentous decision marks a significant step in the Tamil people's long resilient journey in seeking international recognition, international accountability and remedial justice for the genocide being committed against Tamil people by the Sri Lankan state. The Tamil Genocide Monument will serve as a place for the Tamil Canadian community to come together to commemorate and memorialize the Tamil Genocide. It also allows us to share our painful traumatic experiences and to educate our fellow Canadians about the Tamil Genocide.

Councillor Parthi Kandavel's leadership has helped bring truth to light, and we thank him and all members of City Council for standing with us. The Tamil Genocide Monument will be a powerful symbol of the city's commitment to human rights, inclusion, and justice.

With our experience and commitment having successfully built the Tamil Genocide Monument in Brampton, we are prepared to assist Councillor Parthi Kandavel and the City of Toronto in constructing a Tamil Genocide Monument in Scarborough.

Thank you.

National Council of Canadian Tamils



Member Motion

City Council

MM30.25	ACTION			Ward: All
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Tamil Genocide Monument in Scarborough - by Councillor Parthi Kandavel, seconded by Councillor Josh Matlow

** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

** This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Summary

Toronto is home to a vibrant, thriving Tamil community located primarily in the Scarborough area of our city. This motion seeks to follow in the footsteps of other levels of government and jurisdictions by recognizing the Tamil Genocide.

The Government of Ontario passed Bill 104 proclaiming the seven-day period in each year ending on May 18th as Tamil Genocide Education Week and the Government of Canada has named May 18th as Tamil Genocide Remembrance Day. The City of Brampton recently unveiled their Tamil Genocide Monument in their main downtown park.

This motion requests City Staff to consult with the National Council of Canadian Tamils identify a potential site in a City of Toronto Park in Scarborough to host a Tamil Genocide Monument.

Reason for urgency: The motion is to honour the recently passed May 18th – recognized by the Government of Canada as Tamil Genocide Remembrance Day and the conclusion of Tamil Genocide Education Week by the Government of Ontario.



City Council consideration on May 21 and 22, 2025 —

MM30.25 - Tamil Genocide Monument in Scarborough - by Councillor Parthi Kandavel, seconded by Councillor Josh Matlow

Status: Amended

Wards: All

Recommendations

Councillor Parthi Kandavel, seconded by Councillor Josh Matlow recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, in consultation with the General Manager, Parks and Recreation, to consult with Tamil community organizations that have significant experience with building community monuments, including the recent City of Brampton Tamil Genocide Monument, to identify a potential site in a City of Toronto Park in Scarborough to accept a Tamil Genocide Monument under the provisions of the City's Public Art and Monument Donations Policy and report to the Scarborough Community Council in the fourth quarter of 2025.