



# Kristyn Wong-Tam

MPP TORONTO CENTRE

## **Congratulations to the National Council of Canadian Tamils (NCCT) on their Grand Gala of Canadian Tamils 2026**

Welcome and thank you for attending the Grand Gala of Canadian Tamils 2026. This celebration, 16 years since the inception of the NCCT, has brought together prominent Tamil Canadian artists to showcase their talents and crafts.

Over 100,000 Tamils call the Greater Toronto Area home, with Toronto having one of the largest Tamil-speaking populations outside of Asia. Toronto Centre is the most diverse riding in Ontario, with proud Tamil-speaking communities in St. James Town and Regent Park.

Many Tamils came to Canada fleeing genocide and ethnic cleansing during the Sri Lankan Civil War. Crossing oceans and continents, the Tamil Canadian story is one of survival and exceptional resilience. While navigating the loss of their homeland and life as they knew it, Eelam Tamil refugees rebuilt their lives in a new country. They became integral and valued parts of our communities. Tamil Ontarians are represented in every walk of life and at all levels of government.

Today, we gather to celebrate the achievements of the Tamil community. We celebrate organizations like the National Council of Canadian Tamils, which provides a unified democratic voice advocating for Tamil culture and inclusion in Canada. The NCCT has done amazing work, from supporting local food banks to encouraging civic participation to increasing voter turnout among Tamil Canadians, and so much more.

My sincerest thanks go to the NCCT for their contributions to Canadian culture and well-being. I hope you will join me in enjoying a wonderful night of reflection and revelry.

Yours in community service,

Kristyn Wong-Tam

Member of Provincial Parliament for Toronto Centre