

From: [Tanuan, Garry \(Trustees" Services\)](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Cc: [Councillor Shan](#); [Robin Nieto](#)
Subject: My comments for 2017.MM34.15 on November 7, 2017 City Council
Date: Wednesday, November 8, 2017 10:29:16 AM
Attachments: [June Filipino Heritage Month letter to Toronto Council.pdf](#)

Dear Councillor Shan and Councillors of the City of Toronto:

Enclosed is my letter of support on **MM34.15** to declare the **month of June as Filipino Heritage Month** in 2018 and future years in the City of Toronto and the request for the provincial government and federal government to do the same.

As a representative of our Toronto Catholic School community with Filipino heritage and the many Filipino-Canadians in our beloved City of Toronto, I would like to Thank All of You and acknowledge our heartfelt gratitude for representing and considering our request through Councillor Shan's motion to City Council.

Sincerely yours,

Garry Tanuan
Trustee, TCDSB
416.512-3408

November 7, 2017

Greetings Councillor Neethan Shan:

As a representative of the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB), I would like to thank you and acknowledge our heartfelt gratitude for representing those of Filipino heritage in the request through your motion to City Council to declare the month of **June as Filipino Heritage Month in 2018 and future years in the City of Toronto** and the request for the provincial government and federal government to do the same.

Canada has been home to Filipinos for 85 years now. The first wave of Filipinos arrived in Canada in the early 1930s and in Toronto in the 1960s. The Filipino Canadian population dramatically increased in 1997 due to the massive influx of hired skilled and well-trained health professionals & caregiver workforce to fill the labor needs of Canada. They can be found virtually in all industries and sectors everywhere in Canada: schools, offices, medical, engineering, hospitality, retail, food, agricultural, and most particularly, in the community services and health care industry.

Today, many in our Toronto Catholic School Board are of Filipino-Canadian heritage & descent and we celebrate the Proudly Pinoy event each year during Asian Canadian Heritage Month at TCDSB. More than 800,000 Filipino-Canadians call Canada their home. It is the fourth largest ethno-cultural group in Canada and *Filipino* is one of the fastest growing languages in Toronto.

During this **150th year anniversary of Canada**, it is only fitting to recognize the many contributions of Filipinos & Filipino-Canadians in Canada. June is a month of great significance for the Filipino community worldwide, including the celebration of *Philippine Independence Day* on June 12th each year. It is important to recognize, celebrate and educate future generations about this valuable contribution of the Filipino community.

Once again, my heartfelt thanks for supporting us in this effort to declare **June as Filipino Heritage Month in 2018 and for future years at all levels of government**.

Sincerely yours and God Bless,



Garry Tanuan
TCDSB Trustee

cc.

Director of Education Rory McGuckin
Chair of the Board Angela Kennedy and Trustees
Jodelyn Huang, Community Relations Officer (Filipino/Asian Communities)