

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM8.15	ACTION			Ward: 19
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Making it Official: Establishing Danforth Avenue, between Main Street and Pharmacy Avenue, as Banglatown - by Councillor Brad Bradford, seconded by Councillor Gary Crawford

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Economic and Community Development Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Brad Bradford, seconded by Councillor Gary Crawford, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, in consultation with the local Councillors' offices, to engage with community organizations to explore designating Danforth Avenue, between Main Street and Pharmacy Avenue, as the Banglatown Cultural District in recognition of the area's vibrant Bengali culture, following City Council's consideration of objectives and criteria for the Cultural Districts Program.

Summary

In November 2021, our community welcomed the installation of Toronto's International Mother Language Monument in Dentonia Park. This was done through collaboration among many community members who came together with the common goal of having this beautiful monument installed in the heart of the largest Bangla community in Canada. The monument is a reminder of Bengali history and the important contributions that this community has made in the area known locally as "Banglatown."

The strength and resilience of this Bengali community, and all that it does here in the East End and across the City to build community and celebrate the tradition and beauty of the Bengali culture in Canada, deserves recognition. That includes finally moving ahead with a plan to explore officially recognizing Danforth Avenue, between Main Street and Pharmacy Avenue, as Banglatown.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM8.15