

MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE

Advancing the Pakistani Canadian Community Centre

Moved by: Mayor Chow

Seconded by: Councillor Burnside

SUMMARY

Toronto is home to a vibrant Pakistani community, the largest in Canada. More than 160,000 residents of the Greater Toronto Area are of Pakistani origin.

The Pakistani community has a significant population in the eastern part of the City. The community is currently underserved by cultural community facilities and dedicated spaces to support its large and growing population.

The Pakistani Canadian Community Centre Project has been working diligently, together with intergovernmental partners, to advance a plan to deliver a dynamic, multicultural and multi-purpose centralized community center space that also serves residents of the City writ large.

This motion asks City of Toronto staff to explore the possibility of replicating the successful models of the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto, and the Tamil Community Centre to support the development of a dedicated Pakistani community centre that is located close to where the majority of the population resides.

REASON FOR URGENCY

This motion is urgent as the Pakistani Canadian Community Centre project would be delayed by the Council Recess.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. City Council direct the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration, and the Executive Director, Corporate Real Estate Management, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of CreateTO, to work with the Pakistani-Canadian Community and Cultural Centre (PC4) team and stakeholders from the Pakistani-Canadian community to explore potential partnerships for the development of a new community and cultural centre, including consideration of 770 Don Mills Road and other suitable City-owned lands in Toronto, with priority given to locations that are in or near areas with a high concentration of Pakistani-Canadian residents.