



BY-EMAIL

April 22, 2026

**City Clerk's Office**

Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2N2

Re: Council Agenda, April 22, 2026  
Member Motion 40.9 - Celebrating Cricket Day

To the Members of Toronto Council,

We have been alerted to a motion that will be presented by Councillor Neethan Shan, seconded by Mayor Olivia Chow. We feel the motion merits Council's on-going support and attention.

The motion numbered MM 40.9 calls on the municipality to proclaim next September 24 as Celebrating Cricket Day. Equally important, the motion urges the civil service to engage with international and local cricket organizations, leagues, and other relevant stakeholders to initiate discussions on the potential of hosting cricket events and activities in Toronto.

The motion further asks the General Manager to enhance the consultation process to better engage with stakeholders in order to review and identify how the booking processes for park facilities used by cricket leagues and organizations can be improved to support and promote local cricket communities across Toronto.

The motion summary is quite correct in stating that cricket is one of the fastest-growing sports in the City of Toronto, with participation, demand, and a passionate fan base continuing to expand the sport across the municipality.

The growing demand for cricket pitches in Toronto reflects similar demands in other major Canadian cities. However, while many municipalities have formally recognized cricket as an "emerging sport" few have acted to meet the mushrooming demand. We appreciate that Toronto is trying to rectify the situation and thank Councillor Shan for having brought the motion to Council for a much-needed debate.

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We trust that the discussion will also examine what many say is a dearth of publicly available cricket pitches in Toronto.

The cost of a new pitch is relatively modest and requires little funding to maintain it. Cricket is a traditional Canadian sport. It had a huge following in Toronto in the nineteenth century. Its popularity diminished in the 20<sup>th</sup> century as Canadians turned to other sports and pastimes. However, the changing profile of immigration to Canada over the past decades has seen the demand rise without plans in place as to how to accommodate the demand and manage issues that accompany growth such as the reservation of facilities.

Best regards,



Marvin Rotrand  
Director General  
United Against Hate Canada



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