Justice C.V.Wigneswaran Founder & Secretary General, Tamizh Makkal Kootanii Former Chief Minister, Northern Province No.232, Temple Road, Jaffina

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Hon' Mayor Patrick Brown Brampton City Council Brampton, Ontario, Canada.

Your Worship!

It is with much happiness I welcome the Resolution passed by the City of Brampton to commemorate May 18th as Tamil Genocide Remembering Day. I extend my sincere thanks to your good self and to the Brampton City Council for taking this firm stand to defend the Human Rights of the Tamil People in Sri Lanka.

This month of May marks the tenth anniversary of the final days of the armed conflict. The recent Easter bombings have again made innocent and peaceful Christian Tamils victims of violence. Like the Tamil people, members of Sri Lanka's Muslim community have also been the target of state-sanctioned communal violence in the past. Post Easter the Muslims should not collectively be punished for the misguided actions of a few.

United Nations' Members States, as international observers of this urgent situation, should act to rectify the structural problems that are at the heart of Sri Lanka's instability. Whether at the International Criminal Court or at an *ad hoc* International Criminal Tribunal, States should sponsor prosecutions for the war crimes committed, crimes against humanity and genocide committed against the Tamil people during the armed conflict. I hope your commendable act would prompt them to follow suit.

The Declaration of the City of Brampton answers the call of the Northern Provincial Council (issued under my direction in 2015) for international recognition of the fact of Tamil genocide. Tamils in Canada, in their tireless and commendable work to raise awareness of the genocide, have helped to amplify the conflict-affected voices from the Tamil homeland. Your Worship by lending support to their concerns have created a healthy niche in the hearts of all Tamils the World over.

It is my fervent hope that Tamils in the Diaspora, regardless of where they may reside, will continue to carry forward this moral imperative to Legislatures at all levels of government in all Countries taking the cue from Your Worship and the Brampton City Council.

The Resolution by Brampton City Council of which your good self is the current Mayor should prompt other Councils of like nature both in Canada and elsewhere in the world to pass such Resolutions in order to bring awareness among the UN Member States.

When I met your predecessor on my visit to Brampton we had toyed with the idea of Brampton maintaining a Sister City relationship with one of our Districts. It did not then work. Hope our people do have a chance of reviving the request to ensure closer relationship between your Council and our Province.

Thank you

Sincerely

Justice C.V.Wigneswaran

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Secretary General

Tamizh Makkal Kootanii

Co-Chairman, Thamil Makkal Peravai and Former Chief Minister Justice C.V. Wigner

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