



Regional Diversity Roundtable

A: 71 West Drive, Unit 23, Brampton, ON, L6T 5E2
P: 905.457.7288 Ext: 258 F: 905.454.0769

Building an Inclusive and Equitable Peel: RDR's call to action

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The Regional Diversity Roundtable of Peel has worked collaboratively to institutionalize equity, promote respect and inclusion of all diverse groups in the region over the past decade. Though the community building efforts of the not-for-profit and public sector members of the RDR have impacted positive change; incidences of intolerance, racism and discrimination continue to arise in the community; reminding us all that conscious work needs to happen to counter such activities. The Brampton flyers from Immigration Watch Canada, is the latest episode that requires our collective action and response in maintaining the harmony and health of our diverse region.

RDR strongly denounces the position taken and conveyed by IWC in targeting the Sikh community in the City of Brampton. We ask all residents of Peel and the rest of Canada to challenge this issue of identity politics. It is unacceptable and will not be condoned. In Peel, we value the contributions of all our groups. The Sikh community in Brampton, is thriving and giving as the rest of the groups that call it home. For the Board and members of the Regional Diversity Roundtable, it was disheartening to see that IWC did not embrace *diversity* and *inclusiveness*, the values that sit at the heart of Canada's social and moral fabric.

RDR promotes positive civic engagement, which leads to unpacking individual, organizational and systemic biases and stereotypes while moving all involved towards inclusion, growth and change. The RDR is committed to continuous learning and growth and will create spaces to dialogue.

RDR believes that education is the greatest equalizer and we remain committed to offering learning opportunities to increase awareness of diversity and equity issues. We call on the residents to be engaged in the learning and community building efforts and to combat racism wherever encountered.

RDR will continue to build inclusion, acceptance of diversity and achievement of equity by ensuring the region and members stay the course.

Sincerely,

Varsha Naik
Chair, Regional Diversity Roundtable
Board, RDR
Members, RDR