

Delegation to the Committee of Council: Requesting deferral of development charges related to new building for KMSchool, 11499 The Gore Road, Brampton

Agenda Item: 6.10

Introduction: Good morning, esteemed members of the Committee of Council. My name is Harpreet Singh Gill, and I am here on behalf of our multicultural, multifaith private school in Brampton, KMSchool. Our school provides high-quality Montessori education, along with ethnic faith and language programs, catering to the diverse cultural landscape of our city.

Our mission is to create a nurturing, inclusive educational environment where students of all backgrounds can flourish academically, socially, and culturally. This is made possible by providing an authentic Montessori program that includes learning of each child's unique ethnic language and faith.

We have been operating since 2007 and have catered to the diverse community of Brampton. Currently, we are undertaking a building project for which the building permit is under review. This project will create a gym and a double storey school building that will allow us to expand our program up to grade 12, create space to accommodate more children, and also create some unique after school programs that meet the needs of the wider community.

I am requesting a deferral of development charges related to our project. The deferral is necessary as we don't have the cash flow to currently support the extra loan we will require for development charges. After completion of the project, as we grow our enrollment, we will be able to pay the development charges. A deferral of 1 year from the date we get occupancy will help immensely in the success of this project.

Although we are a for-profit organization, our goals and mission are to be of service to the children of the community in a way that aligns with Brampton's strategic goals of fostering culture and diversity.

Alignment with City Council's Strategic Goals:

1. **Valuing and Leveraging Diversity:** At our core, we are a school that values and celebrates diversity. Our multifaith and multicultural programs ensure that students from various ethnic and religious backgrounds feel represented and supported. We leverage this diversity by promoting mutual respect, cultural exchange, and understanding among our students and the larger community.
2. **Meeting Diverse Needs:** The city's vision of providing services that meet residents' diverse needs resonates strongly with us. Through our ethnic faith and language programs, we offer culturally relevant education that reflects the unique needs of Brampton's diverse population. Our school not only delivers academic excellence but also helps families maintain strong cultural and linguistic ties.
3. **Diversity in Arts and Culture:** We actively incorporate arts and cultural programs into our curriculum. From festivals to performances, students explore and engage with their own

cultural heritage while also learning about others. By supporting diversity in arts and culture, we contribute to Brampton's vibrant cultural fabric.

4. **Local, Accessible, and Sustainable Cultural Activities:** Our school is committed to being a community resource. We host local cultural events and language classes that are open to the broader community, not just our students. These activities are accessible, engaging, and designed to be sustainable, promoting local cultural heritage while fostering community connections.
5. **Talent Retention in Arts and Culture:** By encouraging students to explore their artistic and cultural identities, we help foster creative talent from a young age. Our programs help retain this talent within Brampton, nurturing future contributors to the city's arts and cultural scene.
6. **Celebration of Indigenous Heritage and Culture:** We are dedicated to promoting education about Indigenous history and culture. We recognize that celebrating Indigenous heritage is crucial in fostering an inclusive, reconciled society. We integrate Indigenous teachings and cultural awareness into our curriculum, ensuring that students understand and respect Canada's Indigenous peoples and traditions.
7. **Preservation of Heritage:** Our school plays an active role in preserving the cultural heritage of the many communities we serve. Through our language and cultural programs, we ensure that students maintain strong ties to their ethnic backgrounds, contributing to the preservation of their heritage for future generations.

Request for Deferral:

In light of our contributions and alignment with the city's strategic goals, we respectfully request a deferral of development charges for our new building project by at least 1 year from the day we get occupancy. This will allow us to continue building upon our commitment to fostering diversity, culture, and education in Brampton.

Our Contribution:

- We are not just a school but a partner in achieving Brampton's vision of an inclusive, culturally rich community.
- We provide services that directly align with the city's strategic objectives of diversity, inclusion, and cultural preservation.
- Through our ethnic faith and language programs, we actively promote multiculturalism, making us a key player in Brampton's cultural and educational ecosystem.

Conclusion: We look forward to continuing our strong relationship with the City of Brampton, working together to create a city where diversity and culture are not only celebrated but are the foundation of a thriving, inclusive community. Thank you for considering our request and for your ongoing support of institutions like ours that strive to align with Brampton's strategic vision.