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# GOBIND MARG CHARITABLE TRUST ONTARIO

(O/A DARBAR SRI GURU GRANTH SAHIB JI, BRAMPTON)

#3 – 187 Deerhurst Drive, Brampton, ON, Canada L6T 5K3

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Charity BN/Registration #: 84494 5527 RR0001

September 27, 2021

delivered electronically ONLY

## City of Brampton

City Clerk's office,

Mayor Brown and Member of Council,

2 Wellington Street West

Brampton, ON

L6Y 4R2

*Attn: Worship Patrick Brown and respected Members of Brampton Council*

**RE: Gobind Marg CTO – Proposed New School and Place of Worship Planning application  
Request for MZO - Direction**

**Site Location: Countryside Drive, Brampton, ON**

**Legal Description: Part of Lot 16, Concession 11 ND (formerly Twp of Toronto Gore) – City of Brampton  
Regional Municipality of Peel**

This letter is being submitted on behalf of the Gobind Marg Charitable Trust of Ontario (“**Gobind**”), in support of a request to City of Brampton Council for a resolution seeking a Minister’s Zoning Order (a “**Zoning Order**”) to permit the development of a new state-of-the-art integrated school and place of worship.

By way of background, Gobind is a faith-based organization that delivers Ontario Ministry of Education-approved learning curriculum to students between the ages of 4 to 15. This curriculum is further complemented by additional course content in religious, cultural and heritage-language instruction (Sikh and Punjabi). For several years Gobind has been pursuing its plans to develop a new integrated school and place of worship to deliver its faith-based learning curriculum to its growing student body. Despite the social and cultural needs that Gobind serves within the southeast Asian community, Gobind is not afforded the opportunity to secure acquisition of new school sites through the typical plan of subdivision process.

Following considerable efforts within the community to expand the current operations into a new, dignified academic and cultural institution, Gobind acquired the property municipally known as 5253 Countryside Drive. This property is located within the Hwy 427 Industrial Secondary Plan Area. Gobind was successful in securing a site-specific exemption in the Secondary Plan (Special Policy Area 2) which permits the development of a place of worship. Despite these efforts, Gobind was advised in 2016 that a new north-south road would be constructed on these lands, effectively bisecting the property and rendering it unsuitable for a new integrated school and place of worship.



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Gobind subsequently purchased a vacant property very close to 5253 Coleraine Drive, generally to the east, on the north side of Countryside Drive and west of Coleraine Drive (the “**Property**”). The Property is well-sited to serve the growing Southeast Asian Community within the City and the broader Region of Peel. Gobind has been actively developing its proposal for a new integrated school and place of worship on a portion of the Property, and the balance of the Property will remain available for additional employment opportunities in keeping with the in-force Official Plan land use permissions.

The proposed school and integrated place of worship is itself an employment generating use. Based on projected increase in student enrolment, it is anticipated that the proposal will generate approximately 55 full-time, well-paying jobs, more than double the number at its existing operations.

The proposal has been designed to ensure a healthy and safe learning environment for students and staff, while fully accommodating all of the required parking and loading facilities onsite without impacting the surrounding road network. Additional design features, including sound barriers, are proposed to ensure compatibility with other proposed and potential employment uses in the surrounding area.

A Zoning Order would facilitate an expedited planning approval for a much-needed cultural and social service within the growing southeast Asian community. This will assist Gobind in overcoming the systemic issues that prevent it, and other private faith-based organizations, from establishing themselves in the communities that they serve. A Zoning Order would also contribute to the achievement of a diverse employment base within the Secondary Plan Area, in a strategic location that is able to service the needs of a growing student body from across the Region. A Zoning Order would enable Gobind to deliver important academic, cultural and social services within a dignified setting, allowing us to focus limited community resources on the site plan approval process and eventually the construction of the school itself.

We are hopeful that the City will see the need for the important services that Gobind provides within the southeast Asian community, and the opportunities that the proposal affords within the Secondary Plan Area. Gobind is committed to moving the proposal from conceptual design to the construction of a new state-of-the-art facility, and we are requesting that the City assist us in bringing this exciting opportunity to fruition.

Thank you and God Bless

Raghbir Singh Chaggar  
President, Gobind Marg Charitable Trust Ontario

cc. R. Grittani ( RGC)-  
cc. D. Artenosi ( Overland LLP)  
cc. R. Forward ( Brampton)  
cc. S. Ganesh ( Brampton)