



CORRESPONDENCE
2020 AUGUST 24

2355 Derry Road East, Mississauga,
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Tel: +1-647-749-9444;
Website: www.hinduforumcanada.org; E-mail: info@hinduforumcanada.org

August 8, 2020

Dear Mayors and Councilors,

Hindu Forum Canada would like to humbly thank you for approving our request to broadcast hymns between August 11, 2020 and September 1, 2020. This request was presented in our correspondence dated July 31, 2020. Allowing the broadcast of hymns during such an auspicious time has allowed the Hindu community to feel highly respected and integrated into the Canadian culture. Despite the challenging conditions imposed by Covid-19, we thank all those councilors and mayors who initiated emergency meetings and stayed back after office hours to ensure our request was addressed in a timely fashion.

We are proud to share that almost all the cities that received our correspondence have approved our request, however there are still some cities which have not responded or Initiated the process and so there is much left to do. To those who have not had an opportunity to address our concerns, we kindly request your assistance in this matter as soon as possible. We would sincerely like to see all Canadian city Mayors and Councilors approve our request. Time is getting short so please let us know your decisions by Monday August 10, 2020.

Thank you to all Mayors and Councilors for working relentlessly to serve Canadians. Your understanding and efforts in this matter are highly appreciated.

Regards,

Rao N Yendamuri

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Copy to:
City Manager
Dir. Corporate Services

Note from Dir. Corporate Services:

According to the writer, they do not have any specific temples in Burnaby that will be broadcasting as this is not a mandatory event for temples to take part in. Rather, this is a privilege that would allow those who would like to take part in the festivities to practice their faith while socially distancing. However, some examples of temples are Shiv Mandir, located at 5600 Dorset Street, and Hindu Temple, located at 5420 Marine Drive. A motion from Council is required to allow this request.



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July 31th, 2020

RE: Permission to broadcast religious hymns and observe religious processions from August 11, 2020 to September 1, 2020 (on the upcoming Hindu festivals of Krishna Janmashtami, Ganesh Chaturthi and Onam)

Dear Mayor and City Councillor's,

Hindu Forum Canada, hereby, intends to seek permission to broadcast religious hymns once a day and observe a round of religious processions to celebrate the upcoming Hindu festivals of Krishna Janmashtami, Ganesh Chaturthi and Onam starting from August 11, 2020.

Hindu Forum Canada seeks to receive gesture that would allow the local Mandirs (Hindu Temples) to broadcast religious hymns, Gayatri Mantra and Hanuman Chalisa once a day from August 11, 2020 to September 1, 2020, for the purpose of allowing Mississauga (and other) Hindus to celebrate the auspicious occasions of Krishna Janmashtami on August 11, 2020, Ganesh Chaturthi on August 22, 2020 and Onam on August 31, 2020 respectively. Due to the restrictions and challenges posed by COVID-19 pandemic, our Hindu diaspora (relocated followers) have not been able to attend Mandirs (Hindu Temples) or observe their religious ceremonies – and thus have been deprived of experiencing much of their culture, religious practices and the experience of having their religious songs being sung publicly during these trying times. Therefore, permitting the Mandirs in the region to broadcast religious hymns at Arti time in the evening at 7 PM for 5 minutes and stage a limited number of religious parades once a week will act as a source of comfort, especially to the seniors who are at a greater risk of infection by COVID-19 and are unable to leave their homes, even now when the economy has at least partially started to re-open.

Sincerely,

Rao Yendamuri,
President
Hindu Forum Canada