



Doly Begum
MPP for Scarborough Southwest
3110 Kingston Rd Unit 5A, Scarborough,
ON M1M 1P2

Feb 19, 2021

Dear MPP Begum,

The Language Advocacy Day team is honoured to write in support of your efforts to see Canada recognize and proclaim the 21st of February as International Mother Language Day. Canada is a proudly multicultural society, and language is a critical part of the texture of every culture. Each language carries its own story, its own history, and its own unique way of understanding and expressing the world around us. Supporting linguistic diversity adds to the cultural palette with which we create Canadian society; when we choose not to support and preserve languages, especially at-risk Indigenous languages spoken on this land long before colonization, we all lose something.

The Language Advocacy Day Coalition is committed to ensuring that all Canadians have equitable access to quality information and services regardless of the language they speak or sign; providing support in the mother languages of Canada's diverse linguistic communities is not a matter of cultural sensitivity, but a critical matter of ensuring all Canadians have access to the public services and opportunities they need to thrive.

Thanks to efforts by advocates such as yourself, Toronto is now establishing a Mother Language Day monument - a permanent symbol of the city's diversity and the unique character and contribution of each linguistic community to one of the most multicultural cities in the world.

It is only fitting that the government of Canada also recognize [the importance of Mother Languages](#) to the strength and character of our country by recognizing February 21st as International Mother Language Day.

Sincerely,

The Language Advocacy Day Team

www.languageadvocacyday.org