



Greetings from the Honourable Tim Uppal, P.C., M.P.

I would like to extend my warmest greetings to those attending the celebrations at the Markham Civic Centre. On behalf of Prime Minister Stephen Harper, I would also like to wish all Canadian Tamils a happy Thai Pongal.

Canada's Tamil community members have served in all fields and have also greatly enhanced our pluralism with a vibrant and growing cultural presence. The Tamil Canadian community has been one of the fastest growing visible minority groups in Canada over the past thirty years. For the Tamil community in Canada, Thai Pongal is a time of joy and celebration. Thai Pongal provides an opportunity for all Canadians to reflect on all the contributions that Canada's Tamil community has made to our country.

Thank you to all the volunteers and to the organizers of this celebration for putting their time and effort into making this event a success. Congratulations and please accept my best wishes for the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tim Uppal." with a period at the end.

The Honourable Tim Uppal, P.C., M.P.
Minister of State for Multiculturalism

