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**South Korean President visits Brampton to mark 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Korean War**

BRAMPTON, ON: South Korean President Lee Myung-bak marked the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Korean War (1950 – 53) in Brampton this past Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. Brampton is home to the Korea Veterans National Wall of Remembrance, Canada's Korean War memorial, which is located in Meadowvale Cemetery and pays tribute to the 516 Canadian soldiers who lost their lives in the Korean War.

Joining President Lee at the commemoration ceremony were Brampton Mayor Susan Fennell and City Councillor Sandra Hames, in addition to South Korean Ambassador to Canada Ha Chan-ho, Senator Yonah Martin, federal Citizenship and Immigration Minister Jason Kenney, Member of Parliament for Haliburton – Kawartha Lakes – Brock Barry Devolin, Ontario Lieutenant Governor David Onley, Premier Dalton McGuinty, and members of the Korea Veterans Association of Canada.

“On behalf of the City of Brampton, I was honoured to receive President Lee on this solemn occasion, and commemorate with him the sacrifice made by so many young Canadians during the Korean War,” said Mayor Susan Fennell. “I know that he was extremely humbled by the contributions that our soldiers made 60 years ago, and that a tremendous sense of gratitude toward Canada is still felt by the people of South Korea today.”

The City of Brampton has long maintained a positive relationship with the Republic of Korea. Brampton is a twin city to Gapyeong City, the Korean home of the war memorial for fallen Canadian soldiers, and this common history has brought both communities together in a strong cultural bond. Each year, Brampton hosts two youth delegations from Gapyeong City, and Mayor Fennell has hosted the Mayor of Gapyeong on several occasions since 2005. The City of Brampton is also currently hosting a Korean government employee for an 18-month research assignment to study Canadian best practices related to municipal government.

**About Brampton:** The 11<sup>th</sup> largest city in Canada, Brampton has a successful, well-diversified economy and is home to more than 8,000 businesses. The City continues to retain a Triple 'A' credit rating by Standard & Poor's, reflecting its successful economy and debt-free position. Brampton celebrates its diverse population that represents people from more than 175 distinct ethnic backgrounds who speak more than 70 different languages. Offering more than 6,000 acres of parkland, Brampton takes pride in being known as the Flower City of Canada. Brampton has been designated as an International Safe Community by the World Health Organization. For more information visit [www.brampton.ca](http://www.brampton.ca)

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