PROCLAMATION

Day of Remembrance and Action on Religious Freedom

WHEREAS: Today marks the 15th anniversary of the martyrdom of Shahbaz Bhatti, a Christian Federal Minister. He was assassinated for promoting interfaith harmony and for his opposition to blasphemy laws.

Shahbaz Bhatti died at the age of 42 defending a cause to which he had dedicated his life. Today is a reminder that his voice is not silenced and that his message still resonates around the world. The Canadian Pakistani Christian community of Brampton is heartbroken but remains strong and dedicated to voicing their support for religious freedoms here in Brampton and across the world.

Shahbaz Bhatti's legacy contributes to the City's rich cultural mosaic and highlights the importance of interfaith harmony, acceptance, and tolerance for minority groups within a diverse society such as Brampton.

The City of Brampton condemns all forms of targeting religious minorities and reaffirms its commitment to uphold the right to religious freedom and that hatred has no place in the community.

THEREFORE: I, Mayor Patrick Brown, on behalf of Brampton City Council, do hereby proclaim March 2, 2026, as "Day of Remembrance and Action on Religious Freedom" in the City of Brampton.

Mayor Patrick Brown, City of Brampton