



For Immediate Release
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Brampton – “The decision of Canadian government, albeit taken under public pressure, to reverse its policy which forced immigrants to change their names is surely a victory not only for Sikh community but all Canadians,” said Ruby Dhalla, Liberal Member of Parliament for Brampton Springdale.

For the past ten years, this policy required immigration applicants to change their surnames Singh and Kaur by adding an additional surname, which forced many to compromise with their religious and social beliefs. Flimsy rationale given was that it facilitates fast processing of applications as Singh and Kaur were too common names.

“If one is forced to change name to immigrate to Canada then it reflects purely on the wonderful Canadian tradition of social inclusion and multiculturalism for which we are known and respected all over the world” said Dr. Dhalla

Ever since being elected as Member of Parliament, Dr. Dhalla has been receiving complaints in this regard from a large number of constituents. “Most people were forced to quietly bear this discriminatory policy lest their case for immigration is jeopardized” Said Dr. Dhalla

All constituents in general and Sikhs in Particular in Brampton Springdale are greatly relieved at this policy reversal and are visiting Dr. Ruby Dhalla to thank for her proactive approach she adopted to take up the matter with concerned authorities.

“There is reason for everyone to be happy as this policy reversal will help in uniting the families with their loved ones and also image of Canada as a liberal and open country will be enhanced manifold” felt Dr. Dhalla.

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