



For Immediate Release  
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## **Dhalla hosts Townhall to address Brampton Issues**

Brampton- Bramptonians gathered yesterday at a town hall meeting hosted by Dr. Ruby Dhalla, Member of Parliament for Brampton-Springdale to discuss issues of importance to the community.

In response to the economic crisis, growing job losses and barriers to accessing employment insurance by residents Dhalla hosted a town hall in the community of Heartlake to listen and learn of the concerns of her constituents.

Guest speakers for the meeting included James McDowell and Mark Rediger from the Canadian Autoworkers Association who spoke about the impact of the economic crisis, closure of Chrysler, and bankruptcy of Nortel.

"The growing economic crisis, especially in the manufacturing and auto sector has resulted in many Bramptonians suffering as they face lay offs and plight of finding other employment. Making matters worse is the difficulty Bramptonians are encountering in getting help from EI. This has left families struggling to make their mortgage payments, put food on the table and fill up the gas tank. It is these people and their families I have been speaking up for in Parliament," said Dhalla.

Constituents expressed their frustration with the Prime Minister and the Conservative Government's failure to manage the crisis quickly and effectively. Constituents also expressed anger at the difficulty and delay in receiving their EI payments and their fear about their pensions and their future.

Other topics of discussion at the town hall included quality of life issues for Bramptonians such as the growing amount of aircraft noise, lack of available childcare spaces, and poverty and homelessness in the Brampton area.

"The issue of growing airplane noise in Brampton is one of great concern to many community members; I am committed to working with residents to have this issue addressed by all levels of government" said Dhalla.

Dhalla also informed constituents of her willingness and desire to help constituents regarding problems they face under the federal jurisdiction. In addition Dhalla spoke about the Brampton Youth Advisory Council which has been created to help young people design and develop solutions for the challenges they face in the community.

Dhalla encouraged all the residents in attendance to get involved.

Dhalla looks forward to continue working with residents to develop community based solutions to address the needs and concerns of all Bramptonians to build a safer and prosperous community.

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For More Information Contact::

Office of Dr. Ruby Dhalla

Candice Debi

905 874 6868