



Hamilton

CITIZEN COMMITTEE REPORT

HAMILTON HISTORICAL BOARD

REPORT 06-001(HHB)

To:	Chair and Members Community Services Standing Committee
From:	Dr. Walter Peace, Chair Hamilton Historical Board Signature of Chair
Date:	May 3, 2006
Re:	HINDU SAMAJ OF HAMILTON & REGION TEMPLE PLAQUE

Recommendation:

That the wording for the Hindu Samaj of Hamilton & Region Temple plaque, hereto attached and marked as Appendix A to Report No. 06-001(HHB), be approved.

Background:

The Joint Plaquing Sub-committee of the Hamilton Historical Board and Hamilton LACAC was approached by Mr. Ramanath Kamath of the Hindu Samaj Temple of Hamilton & Region in October of 2005. They were interested in a City of Hamilton commemorative plaque at the Temple to celebrate the coming together of Hamilton's community and spiritual leaders in the "Strengthening Hamilton's Community Initiative" and the rebuilding of the Temple.

The attached wording was approved by the Hamilton Historical Board at their meeting on 08 November 2005, by Mr. M. Ramanath Kamath of the Hindu Samaj Temple of Hamilton & Region on 11 November 2005 and by Subhash G. Dighe of the Hindu Samaj Temple of Hamilton & Region on 16 January 2006.

The plaque will be installed at the Hindu Samaj Temple of Hamilton & Region at 6297 Twenty Road, Hamilton. The dedication ceremony is planned for the late Spring of 2006.

Financial Implications:

The manufacture and dedication of the Hindu Samaj of Hamilton & Region Temple plaque will be paid for by the Hindu Samaj Temple of Hamilton & Region. Funds for the installation of this plaque are available in the Manager of Culture's Plaquing account.

**SUBJECT: Hindu Samaj of Hamilton & Region Temple Plaque
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Analysis/Rationale:

It is the mandate of the City of Hamilton Joint Plaquing Sub-committee to recognize Hamilton sites of architectural, prehistoric and/or historical importance with commemorative plaques. Plaques may be awarded for the following reasons.

Historical/Prehistoric Importance

- close association with a noteworthy person (to recognize his/her lasting importance; selected because of his/her association with the place)
- close association with a noteworthy event
- effectively illustrates a significant, broad pattern of cultural, social, political military, economic or industrial history or pre-history

Staff Consultation:

Yes X No

Anna M. Bradford, Manager of Culture and Rebecca Oliphant, Culture Administration Assistant are staff liaisons to the City of Hamilton Joint Plaquing Sub-committee.

Commemorative Plaque

Prepared by Mr. Ram Kamath and Bill Manson

Approved by the HHB November 8, 2005

**Final approval by Subhash G. Dighe of the Hindu Samaj Temple of Hamilton & Region
January 16, 2006**

HINDU SAMAJ OF HAMILTON & REGION TEMPLE

Following the 9/11 destruction of the World Trade Centre buildings in New York the Hindu Samaj of Hamilton and Region Temple was burned to the ground on September 15th, 2001. Such senseless destruction caused immeasurable emotional and spiritual trauma to the Hindus of this area and the world over.

After the destruction of the Temple, the Hamilton community and leaders from all faiths came together in an act of solidarity, and initiated a poster campaign which stated, "AN ATTACK ON ONE IS AN ATTACK ON ALL". With the help of Hamilton's community and spiritual leaders, the "Strengthening Hamilton's Community Initiative" was established to combat hate crimes.

Pali Tripitaka in Dhammapada verse 5 states "For hate is not conquered by hate; hate is conquered by love. This is a law eternal".

With love, the Hamilton and Canadian Hindu communities have rebuilt the Samaj of Hamilton & Region Temple on this same site. The entrance area preserves artifacts that were saved from the destruction on 9/15.

With education, communication, understanding and love we will prevent such crimes in the future. Please come inside and visit.

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Let there be peace everywhere!

Hamilton Historical Board 2006
City of Hamilton

208 words