

**RESOLUTION OF
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF
CANTON, MICHIGAN**

Resolution to declare April 2021 as Sikh Awareness and Appreciation Month in Canton Township and recognizing the Sikh Community and Celebrating the Heritages and Cultures of Sikhs and the Contributions of the Sikh Community to Canton Township

Whereas Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world today and is a monotheistic faith founded in the Punjab region of India approximately 500 years ago;

Whereas the Sikh religion is based on a belief in one God, universal equality, and basic values of truth, nonviolence, tolerance, and peace;

Whereas most of the world's 25 million Sikhs live in India, but more than 500,000 have made the United States their home;

Whereas for over a century, thousands of Sikh Americans have been making valuable contributions to every aspect of American society: in agriculture, information technology, small businesses, the hotel industry, trucking, medicine, technology, public and military service;

Whereas Sikh Americans endeavor to enhance understanding and respect among people of different religions and aspire to see a peaceful and diverse community where everyone is treated equally;

Whereas the Sikh-American community continues to peacefully overcome attacks on its identity and practices, whether in the form of school harassment, employment discrimination, or fatal shootings;

Whereas Canton Township stands with the Sikh community in denouncing hate crimes directed toward any individual based on their religious beliefs; and

Whereas our nation, our state, and our township are enriched by the unparalleled diversity of our residents; now, therefore be it,

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton celebrates the contributions Sikh Americans have made to society, and does hereby declare April 2021 as Sikh Appreciation and Awareness Month in Canton Township. We encourage our residents, employees, and the larger community, to join us in this special observance.