

## [Acceptance speech by Banto Gill on receiving the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal]

Minister Yap, Family and Special Friends:

I would just like to say a few words;

I am very proud and honored to have been nominated and presented with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal.

I am especially proud as a Canadian of Punjabi heritage to be joining the other Canadians of many cultural backgrounds that have also been presented with this Medal.

As most of you know, our family has now had 6 generations that have lived in British Columbia, with four generations being born here. We are all very proud to be Canadians.

I want to thank Randy Sandhu for nominating me for this honor.

Minister Yap, thank you for taking the time to be here today to present me with the Medal.

I also want to thank Minister Yap's staff members, especially Andrew Ives and Rishi Sharma who have worked hard to make today happen.

Charan and Carl thank you for hosting this happy occasion.

Sharing this day with my immediate family members that were able to be here today, along with my relatives and special friends means very much to me.

It is very nice to have a gathering for a happy occasion and I'm looking forward to enjoying time with all of you this afternoon.

Thank you.

### IDENTIFIER

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