SOUTH ASIAN
CANADIAN
DIGITAL ARCHIVE

[Letter from Bikar Singh Dhillon]

KHALSA DIWAN SOCIETY

SIKH TEMPLE

Re: 75 TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOMAGATA MARU INCIDENT
"A REPRESENTATION OF CANADA'S IMMIGRATION POLICY
OF EXCLUSION FOR OVER HALF A CENTURY"

PROJECT SUPPORTED BY:
National Indo-Canadian and Sikh Association across Canada and U.S.A.

SPECIAL ADVISOR:
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Dear President,

June 28, 1989

The *Komagata Maru* Incident today is a symbol of challenge, pride, honour, determination, and injustices for the Sikh community across Canada and U.S.A. Injustices occured seventy five years ago, and the Sikh community suffered discrimination and humiliation for over half a century due to Canada's immigration policy of exclusion. Since then positive steps have been taken in promoting Multiculturalism and the Charter of Human Rights in Canada. As the Khalsa Diwan Society, Vancouver along with branch organizations in Victoria, and Abbotsford played a major role in assisting the passengers in 1914, a number of activities have been planned this year with the support of over 100 societies across Canada. To pay homage to our forefathers and celebrate the existence of the Indo-Canadian community in Canada, the events listed on the poster attached have been planned. Please announce these activities and post it.

The historic gathering on **July 23, 1989 at 2:00 P.M.** at the corner of Canada Place overpass and Burrard Street (actual site where the incident occured) **will have a few thousand** members of the community (i.e. Sikh and Canadian) pay homage to the passengers and the incident. There will also be representation from three levels of Government. Hence it is imperitive to have members from your society present at this historical gathering, to let Canadians know of our unity and heritage. Parking will be available at the Canada Place complex or use the Skytrain, as there is a station nearby.

If you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact us. Please phone us by Tuesday July 18, 1989 and let us know the dollar figure of the amount of food your society donated to the Food Bank. This grand total will be announced on July 23 at the historic gathering.

Yours truly,

Bikar Singh Dhillon,
President

Attach.
BSDdlm

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