

MPP Harinder Takhar Not To Seek Reelection

MISSISSAUGA: MPP Hari-nder Takhar will not be seeking re-election in the upcoming provincial general election after serving as a Member of Provincial Parliament for 15 years. Having first been elected to the riding of Mississauga Centre in October 2003, MPP Takhar went on to represent the newly redistributed riding of Mississauga-Erindale from 2007 to 2018.

After the upcoming electoral redistribution, the Mississauga-Erindale riding will not exist in its present form and will become part of the new ridings of Mississauga Centre and Mississauga-Erin Mills.

During his tenure as MPP, Takhar served in the Ontario Cabinet in various portfolios. He was first appointed as the Minister of Transportation in October 2003 by Premier Dalton McGuinty and held that portfolio until May 2006. He went on to serve as Minister of Small Business, Entrepreneurship and Consumer Services during the pe-



riod of May 2006 to June 2009.

Takhar was appointed as Minister of Government Services in June 2009 and served in that role (except for a brief period of 2.5 months) until his resignation from the Cabinet in May 2013. In addition he also served as the Chair of the Management Board of Cabinet from February 2013 to May 2013.

Toronto Netralya Lions Club Holding Big Gala

Funds Will Go To Anishnawbe Foundation

TORONTO: Members of Toronto Netralya Lions Club (TNLC) is inviting the community to join them for the 2018 Lions Gala for Sight on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at 6 pm at the AVANI event centre in Vaughan. Net proceeds from the event will be donated to Anishnawbe Health Foundation (AHF) to support an Eye Exam Room and Diabetes care for Toronto's Indigenous community. More information at www.netralyalions.com.

"The Gala expects to attract nearly 500 people and will include a fabulous reception, gourmet dinner, raffle draw, door prizes and entertainment, blending the Club's South Asian culture with performances from Toronto's Indigenous community," says Lion Kanta Arora, Founding Member, Club President and Gala Chair (pictured alongside).

In Canada, Diabetes is a leading cause of eye disease. It is also the sixth leading cause of death. For Indigenous Peoples in particular, Diabetes is at unprecedented levels, at least three to five times higher than non-Indigenous counterparts with the onset of the disease occurring at a much younger age.

"Anishnawbe Health Foundation is proud to be the beneficiary of this Gala event to help improve and expand Diabetes management and control programs to prevent Diabetes-related eye disease in Toronto's Indigenous community. We are extremely grateful for the tremendous work of President Lion Kanta Arora, the organizing committee, members and sponsors who are working to make this event a great success. We encourage everyone to get behind the event and purchase a ticket," says Julie Cookson, Executive Director of the Foundation.

Arora, who is spearheading the fundraiser, says that this is the first time the Lions community and the Indian diaspora has taken the lead to raise funds for the Indigenous Community of Canada.

"It is a matter of great pride for all of us and I want to thank my entire Gala team, Board of Directors, Lion Dr. Mike



Sarin who are working so hard to make this fundraiser a success," says Arora, co-founder, multiple award winner, media personality and organizer of many fundraisers having raised thousands of dollars for various initiatives. "I also want to thank Lion Dr. Chandrakant Shah O.Ont and Julie Cookson Executive Director, AHF and also express my gratitude to all our sponsors. I urge all of you to support this great cause and help contribute to our fundraising efforts for this very important cause."

Toronto Netralya Lions Club is a service club dedicated to ending preventable blindness and providing funding for programs that help eradicate eye disease in underprivileged communities. Since its inception in 2009, the Club has raised more than a half a million dollars for various local and global humanitarian causes and charities.

Anishnawbe Health Toronto is a fully accredited Community Health Centre. Its mission is to improve the health and well-being of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people. The top fundraising priority for this organization is a new, purpose built community health centre.

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