PROCLAMATION

SAKA NAKODAR DAY

Whereas on February 4, 1986 four unarmed and peaceful Sikh students, namely Ravinder Singh, Baldhir Singh, Jhilman Singh, and Harminder Singh were killed by State Police in Punjab, India in an unprovoked firing while participating in protest against the desecration of Sikh scripture “Sri Guru Granth Sahib” considered by all Sikhs to be the final, supreme and living Guru after the lineage of 10 Sikh Gurus; and

Whereas the State authorities violated the Freedom of peaceful assembly which is endorsed by Article 20 of U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 21 of U.N. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Article 5 of UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders; and

Whereas the dead bodies were secretly disposed to conceal this extra judicial killing; and

Whereas the state government constituted a Commission of Judicial inquiry headed by a renowned jurist on this incident of Extra-Judicial killings. The Justice Gurnam Singh Commission of Inquiry submitted its report to the state government on 31 October 1986 but the government failed to place and discuss the report, along with the mandatory Action Taken Report, in the state assembly within six months of submission; and

Whereas The state obscured the relevant parts of the Judicial commission inquiry report and took no action on the report and not even a single perpetrator has been brought to justice till date; and

Whereas . Victims' families have been fighting for truth, justice, accountability and closure for over 35 years; and

Whereas this incident has now also received international attention as Member of United Nations Global steering committee of OSAPG has raised it on various international forums; and

Whereas I have always been an advocate for the democratic and human rights of all people.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The City/Town/State of \_\_\_\_\_\_ stands in solidarity and empathy with the Sikh families of the victims of the Nakodar incident in their pursuit of justice as they continue to build worldwide support and proclaim

**February 4, 2021 as SAKA NAKODAR DAY.**