

**Consulate General of Pakistan**  
**Toronto**

**PRESS RELEASE**

To mark the 71<sup>st</sup> Independence Day of Pakistan, the Consulate General of Pakistan organized a flag hoisting ceremony at the Consulate General of Pakistan, Toronto on 14 August 2018. At the invitation of the Consul General, members House of Commons, Ms. Salma Zahid, Mr. Rob Oliphant, Ms. Yasmin Ratansi, Ms. Iqra Khalid and Ms. Deborah Schulte attended the ceremony. Members of Ontario Parliament Mr. Kaleed Rasheed, Mr. Paul Miller, Ms. Marie-France Lalonde and Ms. Nathalie Des Rosier were also present at the event.

The flag of Pakistan was raised by the Consul General to the tune of the national anthem of Pakistan. The Consul General read the messages of the President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan and thanked the guests, particularly the members of federal and provincial parliaments for joining the Consulate and the community on this occasion. Member of House of Commons Hon. Salma Zahid read the congratulatory message of the Canadian Prime Minister addressed to the Consulate while member of Ontario parliament Hon. Kaleed Rasheed delivered the message of Premier of Ontario.

In his message Prime Minister of Canada the Rt. Hon. Justin P. J. Trudeau said that the close bond between the two countries is “strengthened by the large community of Canadians who trace their ancestry to Pakistan and who make significant contributions to society in all fields of endeavour”.

Hon. Doug Ford, the Premier of Ontario in his message extended Independence Day greetings to the Pakistani Diaspora. He further stated that the Independence Day celebrations also provide “a great opportunity to recognize the many important contributions that the Pakistani community has made to Ontario’s strength and prosperity. The Pakistani community is a vital part of the fabric of our province”.

The Independence Day event was attended by a large number of Pakistani community. A documentary on “Emerging Pakistan” was also screened on the occasion.

Toronto  
14 August 2018