

Letters to the Editor:

Attacks cast gloom on Metro Tamils

I write in admiration for the very considered, sedate and analytical views by Rosie DiManno in her column *Violence against violence is not the Tamil way* (June 23).

Also, my congratulations to Sam Duraisamy, president of the Tamil Elam Society, for his statesman-like pronouncements on the recent attacks on Metro Tamils. These attacks are by a minority of misguided youths and the entire Canadian community should not be held accountable. Is it a concerted attack on the Tamils or an unfortunate coincidence? "We all look alike," Duraisamy says.

On the other hand, we cannot suppress our indignation at the attacks. The 70,000 Tamils liv-

ing in Metro should not forget that all of us — now Canadian citizens, landed immigrants and refugees — have at one time or another found ourselves uprooted from our homes by implacable nature and hostile circumstances, and by our own choice, thrown into a land whose capacity for hospitality has been pushed beyond imagination.

What is our duty to the country that has welcomed and bestowed upon us unimaginable facilities? In the recent past there have been some incidents of "village warfare" assaults, drunk and disorderliness by some of our youths and even by some adults. These activities have been rightly condemned by the local Tamil media. They

have cast gloom over the rest of the Tamils who enjoy positions of trust in the various organizations and companies where they work.

The inherent nature of the Tamils is peaceful and that is why we have come in thousands from our war-stricken homeland. DiManno has touched at the very core of Tamil civilization running into several centuries.

Our customary restraints and tolerance will make our so-called attackers bend their heads in shame and make them drop the stones, if any, they propose to cast.

CHELLAPPAH WIJEARAJAH
Scarborough