To the UTM community,

Happy Diwali and Bandi Chhor Divas on Saturday, November 14, 2020. For our many UTM community members who celebrate these festivals, let me extend my personal best wishes to you and your families.

In this year like no other, it is so important to rejoice on days of faith and ceremony. Diwali, the festival of lights, is observed by Hindu, Sikh, Jain and Buddhist communities to celebrate the victory of good over evil. Diwali provides an opportunity to reflect on the courage, perseverance and collectivism that can nourish light over darkness. In honour of Diwali, Lislehurst will be brightly lit in festivity.

Let me also encourage you to stay safe and healthy at this time of celebration. As public health authorities remind us, please wear a mask, maintain social distance, wash your hands frequently and keep in-person celebrations to people who live in your home.

May the festival of lights brighten your life and bring good health, joy, peace and prosperity. Shubh Deepavali and a joyful Bandi Chhor Divas!

Alexandra Gillespie Vice-President & Principal University of Toronto Mississauga