



PROCLAMATION

Emancipation Day

August 1, 2024

Whereas as we commemorate the 2024 Canadian Emancipation Day, we reflect on the profound journey towards justice, equality, and liberation for all Canadians. This significant day marks a pivotal moment in our nation's history, honoring the resilience, strength, and unwavering spirit of those who fought tirelessly for freedom; and

Whereas Emancipation Day serves as a poignant reminder of the struggles endured by Black Canadians throughout history, from the brutal legacy of slavery to the ongoing fight against systemic racism and inequality. It is a time to acknowledge the injustices of the past and reaffirm our commitment to building a more inclusive and equitable society for future generations; and

Whereas today, we celebrate the progress made in advancing racial equality and recognize the contributions of Black Canadians to every aspect of our society – from arts and culture to politics, business, and beyond. Their voices, experiences, and perspectives enrich the fabric of our nation and remind us of the importance of diversity and inclusion; and

Whereas as we observe Emancipation Day, let us recommit ourselves to the ongoing work of dismantling racism, discrimination, and prejudice in all its forms. Together, let us strive to create a Canada where every individual is valued, respected, and given the opportunity to thrive regardless of their race, ethnicity, or background.

Therefore, I, Mayor Bryan Paterson, on behalf of Kingston City Council, hereby proclaim August 1, 2024 as "Emancipation Day" in the City of Kingston.

Dated at Kingston this 10th day of July, 2024.

Bryan Paterson
Mayor