



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS:** Black people have been present in what is now called Canada, including Alberta, for more than 400 years, contributing to the building, defence, and cultural life of this country despite enduring enslavement, segregation, and systemic racism.
- WHEREAS:** Black residents, families, and organizations in Red Deer and Central Alberta have contributed significantly to the social, cultural, educational, and economic vitality of this region, even when their histories and leadership have not always been recognized or recorded
- WHEREAS:** Ubuntu-Mobilizing Central Alberta advances equity, belonging, and opportunity for Black communities, grounded in the principle of Ubuntu — “I am because we are”
- WHEREAS:** Black History Month is both a time to honour the past and a call to take meaningful action in the present

NOW THEREFORE,

I, Cindy Jefferies, Mayor of the City of Red Deer, do hereby proclaim the month of February as Black History Month in the City of Red Deer, and call upon residents to recognize and celebrate the history, contributions, and achievements of Black communities, past and present. This year's theme, “From Presence to Progress,” reminds us to honour the legacy of Black Canadians while continuing to move forward toward inclusion, equity, and opportunity for all.

We affirm that Black History is Canadian History, and Black dignity, is essential to a just and thriving Red Deer. We declare that the future of our City depends on transforming presence into progress ensuring Black communities are not only seen, but fully included, valued, and empowered.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Official Seal of The City of Red Deer, Alberta, to be affixed.

Mayor Cindy Jefferies
The City of Red Deer

