



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: February has been recognized in Canada as Black History Month since 1995. The focus of Black History Month 2025 is Black Legacy and Leadership: Celebrating Canadian History and Future Generations. Black History Month is an opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the contributions of Black people (including Black Canadians, African Canadians, and Canadians of African descent) to the economic, cultural, social and political progress of Canada. Black individuals and black led organizations continue to do extraordinary work to foster cultural dialogue, social change, and economic stimulation.

WHEREAS: The first recorded arrival of a Black family in Alberta was 1881; due to historic erasure the actual date is likely much earlier. During Black History Month all citizens are invited to celebrate Black leadership in our communities, support Black led and Black serving organizations, and the diversity of our culture, our heritage and our future. Citizens are encouraged to participate in opportunities to learn about how racism is imbedded in our way of life and about the sustainable changes we can all make to promote peaceful and inclusive community development. Opportunities to learn are not limited to Black History Month, moving onward together means opportunities are available all year to participate in creating a call to action for allies.

WHEREAS: The City of Red Deer supports Black led organizations and supportive community organizations who work in partnership together to promote safe and healthy communities, diverse cultural events and gatherings, community development opportunities, educational opportunities for Black Newcomers and youth to create positive change, and the activation of inclusive practices.

NOW THEREFORE,

I, Ken Johnston, Mayor of the City of Red Deer, encourage all citizens to participate in commemorating this month as part of our local efforts to build a racism-free and discrimination-free world.

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 Ken Johnston
The City of Red Deer

