



## PROCLAMATION

### International Day of the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

**WHEREAS:** March 21 has been recognized as the International Day of the Elimination of Racial Discrimination since 1979. Observed annually, it commemorates the day that police in Sharpeville, South Africa, opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration against apartheid “pass laws” in 1960. Since then, the apartheid system in South Africa has been dismantled. Racist laws and practices have been abolished in many countries, and the United Nations has built an international framework for fighting racism, guided by the International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; and

**WHEREAS:** On the International Day of the Elimination of Racial Discrimination all citizens are encouraged to celebrate the diversity of our culture and our heritage, to learn how racism is embedded in our way of life, and to learn how we can all make changes to create a community that is inclusive and safe for all; and

**WHEREAS:** The City of Red Deer supports community organizations that are working together to promote inclusivity, diversity, and equality for all people, and we are committed to working with local multicultural organizations to understand, support and identify what we can do to discourage discrimination and build a more inclusive community; and

**WHEREAS:** The City of Red Deer is a signatory to the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination since 2013, and going forward, we are committed to working collaboratively to build a community that celebrates diversity and creates inclusivity.

### NOW THEREFORE,

I, Ken Johnston, Mayor of The City of Red Deer, encourage all citizens to participate in commemorating this day 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  
City of Red Deer

