



**The Corporation of the City of Burlington  
Office of the Mayor**


**PROCLAMATION**

- Whereas** Black History Month recognizes the contributions of people of African and Caribbean descent have made to Canada shaping its identity; and
- Whereas** Black History Month was first recognized in Ontario in February 1993, making the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of legislation prohibiting the importation of slaves into Upper Canada; and
- Whereas** national recognition occurred December 14<sup>th</sup>, 1995 when the House of Commons unanimously agreed to a motion presented by the Honorable Jean Augustine to recognize February as Black History Month; and
- Whereas** the United Nations proclaimed 2015-2024 the Decade for people of African Descent, an important step in the international community recognizing that people of African descent represented a distinct group whose human rights must be promoted and protected; and
- Whereas** Black History Month in Canada is very important as it educates Canadians. Few Canadians know that slavery once existed in Canada, or that many of the British Loyalists, who came here after the American Revolution were Black; and
- Whereas** Black History Month continues to provide the City of Burlington with the opportunity to learn, to share, and to celebrate the important contributions and vital role that Canadians of African descent have made to strengthen the social, economic and cultural mosaic of our community, province, country and the world.
- Therefore** I, Marianne Meed Ward, Mayor of the City of Burlington do hereby proclaim  
**February 2024:**

**“Black History Month”**

in the City of Burlington and do commend its thoughtful observance to all citizens of our municipality.

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024

  
**Mayor Marianne Meed Ward**

CITY OF  
**Burlington**