

Proclamation

February 2023

Black History Month

Whereas, Black History Month is an opportunity to acknowledge and honour the contributions of Black Canadians, both past and present and recognize their significant contributions made to the Town of Orangeville and Canada; and

Whereas, during Black History Month, we celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by Black Canadians to our collective economic, cultural, social, and political development; and

Whereas, the Town of Orangeville recognizes and values the significant contributions and advances that Black Canadians have made and continue to make to Canadian society and recognize the quest of Black Canadians for equal opportunity and freedom from discrimination in Canada; and

Whereas, this proclamation coincides with the United Nations declaration of the International <u>Decade for People of African Descent</u> from 2015 -2024, which encourages national regional and international co-operation in relation to the full enjoyment of economic, social cultural, civil and political rights by people of African Descent, and their full and equal participation in all aspects of society; and

Whereas, the Town of Orangeville's establishment of a Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee will identify ways to eliminate barriers and ensure systemic changes are made to promote equity and inclusion in our community; and

Now Therefore, I, Mayor Lisa Post, on behalf of Council, do hereby proclaim **February 2023** as "**Black History Month**" in the Town of Orangeville and encourage all residents to celebrate our diverse heritage and culture and continue our efforts to make Orangeville an inclusive community for all.

Lisa Post Mayor