

Proclamation April 27 – May 3, 2025 National Volunteer Week

Whereas, Volunteer Canada and community partners like VolunteerDufferin.ca are working to navigate the complexities of modern volunteerism. Together, they are building a National Volunteer Action Strategy to remove barriers and enable individuals to contribute to more connected communities. Now, more than ever, it is essential to recognize and appreciate those who dedicate their time and talents to making a difference; and

Whereas, 24 million Canadians volunteer formally and informally, contributing nearly 5 billion hours annually; and

Whereas, more than 3,000 individual volunteers and 200 organizations that serve Orangeville and surrounding areas are registered on Volunteer Dufferin's matching portal; and local surveys show that 77% of respondents volunteer informally, 54% volunteer formally, and 32% provide unpaid care; and

Whereas, volunteers mentor youth, support those facing isolation, beautify shared spaces, and fundraise for charitable causes. Volunteers continue to dedicate their time and talents to supporting families, friends, neighbours, and even strangers, while also advocating for justice, equity, and inclusion and come from all walks of life, individuals, families, workers, and retirees, who unite to strengthen our community; and

Whereas, the collective efforts of volunteers make the Town of Orangeville a more vibrant, compassionate, and desirable place to live; and

Whereas, volunteers serve in diverse roles, from mentoring and coaching to responding to urgent needs, advocating for meaningful causes, and fostering a sense of belonging through community events. Their dedication and passion enhance social connections, improve public services, and create a safer, more inclusive, and united place to live.

Now Therefore, I, **Mayor Lisa Post,** on behalf of Council, do hereby proclaim April 27 – May 3, 2025 as "**National Volunteer Week**" in the Town of Orangeville and encourage all citizens to recognize and celebrate the invaluable contributions of volunteers.

Lisa Post Mayor