



Proclamation

Emancipation Day

August 1, 2026

Whereas on August 1, 1834, King William IV abolished slavery throughout the British Colonies through the Slavery Abolition Act, 1833; and

Whereas Emancipation Day recognizes the struggle for human rights made by freedom- seeking Canadians of African descent; and

Whereas the day is an opportunity to acknowledge the legacy of the history of slavery in Canada while celebrating the rich contributions that people of African descent have made to our Town and Country; and

Whereas by recognizing Emancipation Day on August 1st the Town acknowledges an unforgiving period within our history and the importance of our ongoing commitment to eliminate discrimination in all its forms; and

Whereas residents of the Town of Aurora are working hard to establish a caring and compassionate community in which all its members, regardless of race or ethnic origin, have the right to live in conditions of good health, safety, dignity, respect and peace.

Therefore be it resolved that, on behalf of the Corporation of the Town of Aurora, I, Mayor Tom Mrakas, do hereby proclaim the day of **August 1, 2026, as Emancipation Day** in the Town of Aurora.

Tom Mrakas
Mayor