



# PROCLAMATION

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- Whereas,* *On this day, August 1st, 1834, slavery was abolished throughout British Colonies by King William IV pursuant to the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833; and*
- Whereas,* *Within fifteen years of the abolition of slavery, between 35,000 and 40,000 Black settlers made their way to Ontario in large part to the Underground Railway to Southwestern Ontario; and*
- Whereas,* *This day is an opportunity to recognize Canadians are not always aware that Black and Indigenous Peoples were once enslaved on the land that is now Canada; and*
- Whereas,* *It is a demonstration of our respect for human liberty and freedom and in recognition of the richness of the culture and history brought to Ontario by African Canadians; and*
- Whereas,* *To commend the individuals who fought enslavement, understanding they were pivotal in shaping our society to be as diverse as it is today; and*
- Whereas,* *Emancipation Day acts as a reminder to maintain meaningful dialogue surrounding race relations and inclusiveness; and*
- Therefore,* *I, Annette Groves, Mayor of the Town of Caledon, hereby do proclaim*

**August 1, 2025**

**as**

**"Emancipation Day"**

*in the Town of Caledon and do commend its thoughtful observance to all citizens of our municipality.*



*Mayor Annette Groves, Town of Caledon*