



**Report**  
**Staff Report**  
**The Corporation of the City of Brampton**  
**11/27/2024**

**Date:** 2024-10-09

**Subject:** **Important and Commemorative Dates 2025**

**Contact:** Jason Tamming, Director, Strategic Communications, Tourism and Events

**Report number:** Corporate Support Services-2024-952

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That the report from Jason Tamming, Director, Strategic Communications, Tourism and Events to the Committee of Council Meeting of November 27, re: **Important and Commemorative Dates 2025** be received;
2. That Council approve the proposed 2025 Commemorative Dates Listing and recommended tactics (Appendix A)

**OVERVIEW:**

- Events and Protocol developed the Community Recognition Program in 2019 as a framework to celebrate the City of Brampton's cultural mosaic.
- Annually, staff undertake a review of the current Community Recognition Program, conduct research on Brampton's demographics and review international, and federal heritage days, commemorations and holy days to acknowledge for the following year.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Community Recognition Program framework celebrates Brampton's diversity through recognition of cultures and commemorative dates with consistent and equal resources.

The Community Recognition Program was created in March 2019 to formalize existing and new tools for the City to be proactive in recognizing dates of importance as well as facilitate opportunities for the community requests for recognition.

## CURRENT SITUATION:

On an annual basis, Events and Protocol recommend dates of importance for the City of Brampton to be celebrated through the Community Recognition Program. This list does not include statutory holidays. These dates align with the Term of Council Priorities. Commemorative Dates are supported by various degrees of recognition including but not limited to: Transit and Recreation digital signage, social media, corporate calendar, proclamations, clock tower lightings, flag raisings, half-masts, or receptions.

The Community Recognition Program includes two key components:

1. Corporate-led initiatives:

Commemorative Date Listing and Communications Tactics

- Government of Canada Dates of Importance
- Major Holy Days (recognized by the top 5 religions in Brampton)
- Departmental Awareness Days

2. Community-initiated activities: The community may request recognition through the Protocol Office in the form of:

Flag Raisings Requests

- Flag raising requests can be submitted directly to the [Flag Raising and Half-masting](#) webpage on Brampton.ca. The City of Brampton's Community Recognition Program prioritizes empowering the community to recognize dates of importance.

Proclamations and Clock Tower Lightings

- Proclamations are ceremonial documents issued and signed by the Mayor on behalf of Brampton City Council that officially recognize the importance of an event, a campaign, or an organization of significance, interest or benefit to the citizens of Brampton for a particular day, week or month.
- The City Hall clock tower is an opportunity for the City of Brampton to recognize and celebrate special occasions and events that celebrate Brampton's diverse community and foster a spirit of community. Lightings will occur for one evening and will take place on the approved date.

Proclamations and clock tower lightings do not constitute a personal or civic endorsement.

The Important and Commemorative days, Major Holy Days and City recognized awareness days indicated in this report are recognized through social media content which will be posted on City of Brampton platforms. Community Recognition Programs, which include proclamations, flag raisings and clock tower lightings, are community led initiatives, where requested by community

organizations, the days of significance listed in this report will be further recognized through these programs.

To celebrate the strength of Brampton's diversity, equality and inclusivity the City prioritizes community requests for commemorative dates.

### **Cultural Expressions for Bus Destination and Recreation Signage**

Recognizing the importance of cultural days, religious observances and holy days, cultural expressions for recreation and bus destination signage was developed through staff consultations with the Peel District School Board in regards to their Faith Forward Program, Brampton's religious Census Data, and a forum with local faith leaders who identified the most important and celebrated events in their faith. This list is not designed to be comprehensive but rather a means to recognize the days most celebrated by Brampton residents, we continue to celebrate and recognize additional dates of significance with community flag raisings, events, clock tower lightings and proclamations.

### **New Requests for Commemorative Dates**

Staff propose the annual report as the best opportunity to add dates. Council may elect to add to the list throughout the year with discretionary authority given to the Director, Strategic Communications, Tourism and Events. New requests must be submitted two months in advance of the date to optimize digital assets. Strategic Communications will determine which communication tools are most appropriate to acknowledge/commemorate new dates. Departmental operational requirements and availability will be taken into consideration. References included below for Council information include other commemorative dates including religious dates, health promotion days, and heritage months:

1. Government of Canada, Important and Commemorative Days:  
<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/important-commemorative-days.html>
2. Government of Ontario, Celebrations & Commemorations:  
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontarios-celebrations-and-commemorations>
3. United Nations International List of Days and Weeks <https://www.un.org/en/observances/list-days-weeks>
4. Peel District School Board Holy Days and Holidays Calendar:  
[Calendar - Peel Board Office Site \(peelschools.org\)](http://peelschools.org)

## **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:**

### **Financial Implications:**

There are no financial implications associated with this report

## **STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA:**

This report and recommendation supports Culture and Diversity by promoting cross-cultural understanding, supporting cultural events, developing a holistic framework to embed diversity across the city, and supporting Indigenous Heritage and Culture

## **CONCLUSION:**

Annually, staff undertake a review of the previous year's commemorative dates listing, conduct research on Brampton's demographics and review federally and provincially recognized heritage months and dates of significance to present the follow year's list of commemorative dates. Abovementioned is the proposed Important and Commemorative Dates for 2025.

Authored by:

Reviewed by:

---

Sharandeep Natt,  
Protocol Officer,  
Strategic Communications, Tourism &  
Events

---

Jason Tamming,  
Director,  
Strategic Communications, Tourism &  
Events

Approved by:

Approved by:

---

Alex Milojevic,  
Commissioner,  
Corporate Support Services

---

Marlon Kallideen,  
Chief Administrative Officer

## **Attachments:**

- Attachment 1 – Appendix A