

## PROCLAMATION BLACK HISTORY MONTH FEBRUARY 2024

**WHEREAS** Black History Month recognizes the contributions that People of African and Caribbean descent have made to Canada, shaping its identity;

AND WHEREAS Black History Month was first recognized in Ontario as of February 1993;

**AND WHEREAS** National recognition occurred on December 14th, 1995 when the House of Commons unanimously agreed to a motion to recognize February as Black History Month;

**AND WHEREAS** The United Nations proclaimed 2015-2024 the Decade for people of African Descent, an important step in the international community recognizing that people of African descent represent a distinct group whose human rights must be promoted and protected;

**AND WHEREAS** Black History Month in Canada is very important as it educates Canadians regarding slavery that once existed in Canada, and that many of the British Loyalists who came here after the American Revolution were Black;

**AND WHEREAS** Black History Month continues to provide residents of the Town of Halton Hills with the

opportunity to learn, to share and to celebrate the important contributions and vital role that Canadians of African descent have made to strengthen the social, economic and cultural mosaic of our community, province, country and the world.

**THEREFORE**, I, Ann Lawlor, Mayor, of the Town of Halton Hills do hereby proclaim February 2024 as **Black History Month** in the Town of Halton Hills and encourage support for this proclamation.

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Ann Lawlor Mayor, Town of Halton Hills