

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF McNAB/BRAESIDE

BY-LAW NO. 2025-27

Being a By-Law to adopt the Flag Etiquette and Proclamation Policy of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside

WHEREAS the Municipal Act, 2001 confers broad authority on the municipality to enable the municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality's ability to respond to municipal issues;

AND WHEREAS Section 8 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, provides that a municipality has the capacity, rights and powers of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other Act.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside hereby enacts as follows:

1. **THAT** Council of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside hereby adopt the "Flag Etiquette and Proclamation Policy" attached hereto and marked as Schedule "A" to this By-Law.
2. **THAT** this By-law shall come into full force and effect upon the passing thereof.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that all By-Laws or parts thereof, and all or any resolutions of Council contrary thereto, or inconsistent herewith, be and the same are hereby repealed.

READ a first time this **18th day of March, 2025**.

READ a second time this **18th day of March, 2025**.

READ a third and final time and passed this **18th day of March, 2025**.


MAYOR


CAO/CLERK

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF McNAB/BRAESIDE

BY-LAW NO. 2025-27

Schedule A
“Flag Etiquette and Proclamation Policy”

Township of McNab/Braeside		
Policies and Standard Operating Procedures		
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POLICY STATEMENT:

- 1.1 The Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside will fly the Federal, Provincial and McNab/Braeside flags on a permanent basis at the Municipal Complex and other properties and facilities within the Township and may fly other Government or Community or Organization flags at the Municipal Complex on a temporary basis to mark special occasions or help raise public awareness.
- 1.2 Flags may also be lowered to half-mast to commemorate special dates or as a measure of respect and condolence in the event of a death.
- 1.3 The Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside receives requests to officially proclaim a specific day, week, or month to honour a particular cause. Council recognizes that an official proclamation issued by them can promote and enhance the credibility of a cause and affirms its support for causes that benefit the Municipality, its communities, and its residents through the proclamation process.

PURPOSE:

- 2.1 The purpose of this policy is to establish a protocol for the respectful raising, displaying and half-masting of all flags at properties and facilities within the Township of McNab/Braeside in a consistent and appropriate manner; and
- 2.2 This policy is to provide a structure that will encourage public awareness and/or provide recognition for events or issues deemed to be of interest, benefit, or significance to the majority of residents of the Township.

APPLICATION:

- 3.1 This Policy shall apply to all Proclamations made by Council and to all flags flown at all Township facilities and parks owned/operated by the Township of McNab/Braeside.

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ADMINISTRATION:

4.1 Flag Protocol

- Flags should be flown and followed according to the direction under the *Department of Canadian Heritage*.
- The public will be notified of the raising and half-masting of flags through the Township's social media platforms.
- When the Canadian Flag, Provincial Flag of Ontario and the Township of McNab/Braeside flag are flown together the:
 - Canadian Flag will occupy the center position to the observer of the flag.
 - The Provincial Flag will occupy the right position to the observer and;
 - The Township Flag will occupy the left position to the observer.
 - In the event these three (3) flags are hung outside they must be hung on separate flag poles.
 - If these flags are to be raised and lowered, should it not be possible to do this all at the same time, these flags are to be raised and lowered in accordance with their rank Canadian flag, followed by the Provincial flag and lastly the Township flag.
 - Flags of Canada, Ontario and the Township of McNab/Braeside may be displayed at official functions. The County of Renfrew is optional, but if included, it will be positioned between the provincial and municipal flags. The flags shall be in descending order from left to right (i.e. federal, provincial, county, municipal). The audience should view the flags.

4.2 Canadian Flag

- The Canadian flag will be flown at the Municipal Complex and other Township owned parks and facilities where flagpoles are present.
- The Canadian flag will also be displayed in the Council Chambers.
- The Canadian flag will be flown with dignity and will be displayed properly within the Township guidelines.
- The Canadian flag may be replaced at the Municipal Complex if dignitaries are in attendance at a function:

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- Her Majesty's Personal Canadian flag.
- Standard of members of the Royal family.
- Standard of the Governor General; and
- Standard of the Lieutenant Governor (when in his/her province of jurisdiction and when assuming the duties of the Queen).
- When the Canadian flag is displayed on a speaker's platform, it should be against the wall, or on a flagpole on the left (from the point of view from the audience). This is how it should be displayed in Council Chambers.
- For any other way the Canadian flag should be flown in reference to Position of honour of the National Flag of Canada.

4.3 Provincial Flag

- The Provincial flag will be flown at the Municipal Complex and other Township owned parks and facilities where flagpoles are present.
- The Provincial flag will also be displayed in the Council Chambers.
- The Provincial flag will be flown with dignity and will be displayed properly within Township guidelines.

4.4 Township of McNab/Braeside Flag

- The Township of McNab/Braeside flag will be flown at the Municipal Complex and other Township parks and facilities where flagpoles are present.
- The Township of McNab/Braeside flag will be flown with dignity and will be displayed properly within the township guidelines.

4.5 Flags of other Nations

- On the occasion that a foreign dignitary should visit the municipality, the flags from other nations may be flown. In these cases, the municipality shall follow Federal protocol which dictates that the National Flag of Canada takes precedence. The order of flags shall be (from left to right) Canada, Other Sovereign Nations, Province, Any International Organizations, Township of McNab/Braeside.

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4.6 Flags of other Organizations (community or organization flag raisings)

- Community or organization flags refer to all other flags, buntings or banners that have no Government standing.
- Community or organization flags will only be flown at Town Hall on the Township of McNab/Braeside flagpole beneath the Township flag.
- If there is a conflict with more than one organization, the Provincial flagpole will be utilized, and the additional community or organization flag will be flown beneath the Provincial flag.
- Community or organization flags may be flown on a temporary basis including a specific day in a month, for an entire week, or a full month based on the request received.

4.7 Community Flag Requests May be Approved:

- To raise awareness or celebrate community, non-profit or charitable organizations or groups that serve the Township and its residents in a positive manner.
- To support cultural, civic events or benefits that are of significance or provide enrichment to the residents and stakeholders of the Township.

4.8 Community Flag Requests Will Not be Approved for:

- Political parties or religious groups; or in support of fund-raising drives that are political or religious in nature.
- Celebrations, campaigns or events intended to defame the integrity of the Township.
- Support for individuals, groups, organizations, or events that promote beliefs contrary to any other Township policy or by-law.
- Commercial or Industrial entities.
- Any individual, group or organization that espouses hatred, violence or racism or contain any offensive, derogatory or libelous graphics or words.

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- 4.9 Flag Raising Requests from an Individual, Organization or Group must:
- Submit a request in writing to the CAO/Clerk, a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to the requested flag raising event outlining the reasoning/purpose and the requested date.
 - Notify the CAO/Clerk if the flag raising is in conjunction with a Proclamation request.
 - Provide the flag and/or other information pertaining to their flag raising to the Clerk's office at least one (1) week in advance of the event.
 - Township Staff will confirm approval or denial of a request.

- 4.10 Half Masting for Mourning
- Flags being flown at half-mast is a symbolic expression of mourning. The Township follows the Federal protocol outlined by the *Department of Canadian Heritage – Rules for Half Masting*. All flags at the Municipal Complex will be lowered during this time.
 - Flags will be flown at half mast, as directed by the *Department of Canadian Heritage* for all federal government buildings from the day the Township is notified of the death until the funeral, or the following the death of:
 - On the death of the Sovereign or a member of the Royal Family.
 - On the death of the Governor General (or former) or Lieutenant Governor.
 - On the death of the Prime Minister (or former), Premier (or former), federal cabinet minister, local Member of Parliament, local Member of Provincial Parliament.
 - On the death of a person whom Council desires to honour.
 - At the call of Council according to specific circumstances.
 - On the death of current or previous: members of Council, Township employees and County of Renfrew Warden (in the case of retired Township employees, the flag is flown at half-mast only if the death is reported to the Township prior to the funeral).

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- On occasions where the National Flag of Canada be flown at half-mast, all flags are to be flown together at half-mast.
- Flags shall not be flown at half-mast at any other municipal building, property, or facility, except the Municipal Complex, unless otherwise directed.

FLAGPOLE LOCATION:

- 5.1 Council will approve and direct staff to install any additional flagpoles that may be deemed necessary on Municipal property.
- 5.2 The Director of Public Works will provide guidelines and expertise with regards to site conditions and locations.

PROCLAMATION PROTOCOL:

- 6.1 A proclamation may be issued to the following:
 - Charitable and non-profit organizations, including arts, athletic and cultural celebrations to help increase public awareness of their cause.
 - The Province of Ontario or Federal Government of Canada.
 - An individual who has achieved national or international distinction or whose significant contribution to the community warrants recognition.
 - An organization, committee, or board that is associated with the Municipality.
- 6.2 A proclamation may be issued for a day, a week, or a month, as directed by Council.
- 6.3 A proclamation is issued to acknowledge the effort and commitment of an organization or individual. It should not be interpreted as an endorsement by either Council or the Municipality.
- 6.4 The Municipality will not incur any expenses relating to the advertising or promotion of a proclamation unless a department of the Municipality initiates the proclamation.
- 6.5 Recipients are responsible for organizing related activities and for all associated costs, should they wish to do so.

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- 6.6 A proclamation will not be issued if the undertakings or philosophy of the group, individual, or organization they represent are:
- Contrary to the Municipality's policies or By-Laws.
 - Discriminatory.
 - Espousing hatred, violence, or racism.
 - Illegal.
 - Not located within the boundaries of the Township, unless the request comes from the Province of Ontario or the Federal Government of Canada.
 - Politically or religiously motivated.
 - Intended for profit-making purposes.
- 6.7 An organization, group, or individual may only request one proclamation annually.
- 6.8 The requestor does not have exclusive rights to the day, week, or month of their proclamation: Council reserves the right to approve multiple requests within any given day/week/month.

PROCLAMATION PROCEDURES:

- 7.1 Proclamation requests must be submitted to the CAO/Clerk's Office at least four (4) weeks in advance of the first calendar day of the proclamation date. Requestors must submit the draft wording for inclusion in the proclamation. Requests will be added to the Council agenda for approval. The draft language provided may be edited or rewritten at the discretion of Council to ensure compliance with Municipal policies and procedures and to improve the structure and or intent of the requested proclamation.
- 7.2 In the event the Clerk's office receives a request that Council has previously approved, they will automatically process the proclamation. A list of approved Proclamations is attached as Schedule A of this Policy.

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Schedule A

Proclamation Name	Proclamation Month/Day	Flag Raising/Lowering
Black History Month	February	No
Ontario Heritage Week	3 rd Week of February	No
Federated Women’s Institute of Ontario	February 19	No
World Autism Day	April 2	Yes - Raise
Earth Day	April 22	No
Day of Mourning for Persons Killed or Injured in the Workplace	April 28	No
Mental Health Week	First week of May	No
National Public Works Week	Third week of May	No
National AccessAbility Week	Last Sunday in May	No
Pride Month	June	Yes - Raise
National Indigenous Month	June	No
World Blood Donor Day	June 14	No
National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism	June 23	No
International Literacy Day	September 8	No
Firefighters’ National Memorial Day	2 nd Sunday in September	No
Terry Fox Day	2 nd Sunday in September	No
Police & Peace Officers’ Memorial Day	Last Sunday in September	No
Suicide Prevention Day	September 10	No
National Day for Truth & Reconciliation	September 30	Yes - Raise
National Seniors’ Day	October 1	No
Mental Illness Awareness Week	1 st Week of October	No
Local Government Week	Third full week of October	No
Remembrance Day	November 11	No
National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women	December 6	No

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Black History Month Proclamation:

WHEREAS in 1995, Jean Augustine, the first Black Canadian woman elected to Parliament, requested, and received unanimous agreement in the House of Commons on her motion to declare February as Black History Month in Canada;

AND WHEREAS people of African, Caribbean and Afro-Indigenous descent have a long and rich history in Canada, shaping our country's heritage and identity;

AND WHEREAS Black History Month is a time to learn about the historical and contemporary stories, achievements, and contributions that diverse Black people and communities have and continue to make to the cultural, economic, political, and social development of the Township of McNab/Braeside and Canada;

AND WHEREAS we honour all the individuals and organizations in our community that are committed to uplifting Black people and communities, achieving racial equity, and eliminating anti-Black racism;

AND WHEREAS advancing equity, diversity, inclusion, reconciliation, and anti-racism in collaboration with the community are priorities of this Council;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside hereby proclaim the month of February as Black History Month.

Ontario Heritage Week Proclamation:

WHEREAS each February, Ontario Heritage Week celebrates our diverse traditions, cultural expressions, and heritage in all its forms (architectural, cultural, natural, archaeological and collections);

AND WHEREAS every community in Ontario has its own unique culture and heritage, which has the power to bring people together, create a sense of belonging and help guide a community in its growth and development;

AND WHEREAS Ontario Heritage Week provides an opportunity for residents of McNab/Braeside to celebrate our Township's rich heritage;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside do hereby proclaim the third week of February, as Ontario Heritage Week in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

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Federated Women’s Institute of Ontario Proclamation:

WHEREAS the Federated Women’s Institute of Ontario (FWIO) is a not-for-profit charitable organization with affiliations around the world, working with and for women in rural and small-town Ontario to offer education, programming, and community support; advocate for social, environmental and economic change, work towards the personal growth of all women, for home and country;

AND WHEREAS the FWIO envisions an Ontario where individuals come together to create safe, healthy communities and achieve enriched and balanced lifestyles;

AND WHEREAS the FWIO values mutual respect and support, communication, healthy members and a healthy environment, safe communities and versatility and adaptability;

AND WHEREAS FWIO members across Ontario are working to initiate programs to strengthen families and communities, interpret and record local history, share fun and friendship, advocate for change, resolutions, briefs, and letters, develop and hone leadership skills, identify and act on local, national and global issues and share a voice with women around the world;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside do hereby proclaim February 19 as “Federated Women’s Institute of Ontario Day” in our community.

World Autism Day Proclamation:

WHEREAS World Autism Day is recognized on April 2 in Canada. Autism Ontario is one of the largest collective voices representing the autism community, and the work we do helps all autistic individuals and families in their communities have access to meaningful support, information, and connections — not only on April 2 but every day throughout the year.

AND WHEREAS Autism impacts more than 135,000 individuals in Ontario, representing 1 in every 50 Canadian children and youth. It not only influences the lives of autistics but also their friends, families, and communities. It's crucial for us to raise awareness, and acceptance, provide support and promote a more inclusive society.

AND WHEREAS Autism is a diverse spectrum that varies widely among individuals. Each person's experience with autism can change over time. This evolving journey highlights the uniqueness of every autistic individual, emphasizing the need for understanding and support tailored to their specific needs.

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AND WHEREAS Autism Ontario is the leading source of information and referral on autism, and since 1973, has been providing support, information, and opportunities for thousands of families and individuals across the province.

AND WHEREAS Autism Ontario is devoted to raising public awareness about autism and addressing the everyday challenges faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals who work alongside them. We urge everyone to recognize and celebrate the unique differences and needs of others, fostering an inclusive environment where all individuals can participate fully in activities and discussions. Together, we can create a society that values and includes everyone.

NOW THEREFORE BE IS RESOLVED THAT the Township of McNab/Braeside hereby recognizes April 2 as World Autism Day while committing to embrace awareness and acceptance today and every day throughout the year.

Earth Day Proclamation:

WHEREAS Earth Day was first celebrated on April 22, 1970, to inspire an appreciation of the natural world through conservation and protection;

AND WHEREAS Earth Day marks a renewed commitment to environmental stewardship and to the implementation of efforts to improve, protect and enhance the environment;

AND WHEREAS global challenges continue to grow, such as environmental degradation, climate change, food insecurity, and water shortages;

AND WHEREAS the community is invited to take part in Earth Day events to learn more about climate-related risks and how to take climate action;

AND WHEREAS residents of McNab/Braeside are encouraged to implement practices designed to preserve and protect our environment and shape the future of our environmental security;

AND WHEREAS hundreds of thousands of Canadians show their concern for the environment and their communities by participating in Pitch-In Day projects to reduce, reuse, recycle and properly dispose of waste;

AND WHEREAS Pitch-In Canada encourages voluntary action to keep communities clean and beautiful and restore and maintain a healthy environment;

AND WHEREAS the annual recognition of this day is an opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to the principles of that first Earth Day;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside, do hereby proclaim April 22, as Earth Day.

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Day of Mourning for Persons Killed or Injured in the Workplace Proclamation:

WHEREAS April 28 is observed across Canada and around the world as the National Day of Mourning for workers who were killed, injured, disabled or who suffered disease as a result of work;

AND WHEREAS April 28 was proclaimed "National Day of Mourning" by an Act of Parliament on February 1, 1991, as a day to remember, reflect and re-commit;

AND WHEREAS thanks to the commitment and dedication of those who fight for improved workplace health and safety every day, advances have been made that make Ontario a safer place to work; however, despite this progress, too many people continue to lose their lives, or suffer an injury or illness, because of their job;

AND WHEREAS every worker has the right to return home safe and sound at the end of each workday;

AND WHEREAS by working together with employers, workers and health and safety partners, we can prevent injuries and deaths to workers before they occur;

AND WHEREAS April 28 of each year is:

- A day to mourn and remember all workers who have been stricken with illness or have lost their lives on the job; and
- A day to remember children left without a parent and families facing hardships, including family and friends, who nurse or care for ill and injured workers; and
- A day to renew approaches to governments for tougher occupational health and safety standards and more effective compensation; and
- A day to re-dedicate ourselves to the goal of making Canada's workplaces safer.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside hereby proclaim April 28, 2024, as National Day of Mourning.

Mental Health Week Proclamation:

WHEREAS mental health is an essential part of everyone's health and well-being;

AND WHEREAS Mental Health Week has been hosted by the Canadian Mental Health Association in communities across Canada for over 70 years;

AND WHEREAS one in five Canadians experience a mental illness or mental health issue;

AND WHEREAS all people in Canada need to promote, protect, and nurture their mental health;

AND WHEREAS this is a time for Canadians to come together to speak openly about mental health, listen with empathy to the stories of others, and support those who are struggling;

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AND WHEREAS promoting social connection is an important aspect of human life and an effective way to protect mental health;

AND WHEREAS help is available through organizations such as the Canadian Mental Health Association;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside, hereby proclaim the first week of May as Mental Health Week in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

National Public Works Week Proclamation:

WHEREAS public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to the public health, high quality of life and well-being of the people of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS these infrastructure, facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers and employees from provincial and municipal governments and the private sector, who are responsible for rebuilding, improving and protecting our nation's transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens;

AND WHEREAS it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders and children in Canada to gain knowledge of and to maintain a progressive interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside do hereby designate the week third week of May as National Public Works Week.

National AccessAbility Week Proclamation:

WHEREAS under the Accessible Canada Act 2019, c. 10 (Section 133), throughout Canada each year, the week starting on the last Sunday in May is known as National AccessAbility Week. It is an opportunity to promote accessibility and inclusion across communities and workplaces, to celebrate the contributions of Canadians with disabilities, and to be inspired to break down barriers further;

AND WHEREAS National AccessAbility Week was first established following Paralympian Rick Hanson’s Man in Motion World Tour in 1987;

AND WHEREAS individuals with disabilities are impacted daily by barriers to accessible information, independent access to facilities, employment, transportation, and accessible communication supports. Such barriers often affect an individual’s ability to participate in

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community life fully. National AccessAbility Week is an opportunity to celebrate accessibility and increase our efforts to achieve our goal of becoming an accessible community by eliminating barriers in Township of McNab/Braeside facilities, programs, and services;
AND WHEREAS the Township of McNab/Braeside’s Council and staff are committed to working to make McNab/Braeside an inclusive community in which all persons can independently exercise their civil, political, social, and cultural rights on an equal basis and ensuring that everyone has the right to live in conditions of dignity, respect, and peace;
AND WHEREAS on behalf of the Township of McNab/Braeside we extend our recognition to all persons with disabilities;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside proclaim the week of the last Sunday in May, as National AccessAbility Week and encourage everyone to support equality of access, opportunity, and outcomes for persons with disabilities.

Pride Month Proclamation:

WHEREAS June is recognized in Canada as Pride Month - a time to celebrate the contributions of persons from the 2SLGBTQ+ community, and increase efforts to build awareness;
AND WHEREAS the Ontario Human Rights Act prohibits all forms of discrimination, including those on the grounds sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expressions;
AND WHEREAS the Strategy for Belonging promotes equity, diversity and inclusion;
AND WHEREAS the Municipality’s vision is “a community of communities where all people belong”;
AND WHEREAS the Township of McNab/Braeside acknowledges and celebrates the contributions of the 2SLGBTQ+ community, to the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of all Ontarians;
AND WHEREAS the recognition of Pride is integral to fostering belonging, increasing public awareness of 2SLGBTQ+ community, their, contribution to community and layers of discrimination;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside do hereby proclaim the month of June as Pride Month in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

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National Indigenous Month Proclamation:

WHEREAS the Township of McNab/Braeside formally acknowledges that the land we live, work, and play on is the unceded, traditional territory of the Algonquin and Anishnabek Nation;

AND WHEREAS this territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties;

AND WHEREAS the Township of McNab/Braeside also acknowledges that this land is the Traditional Territory of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan;

AND WHEREAS we are grateful for the opportunity to meet here and we thank the Stewards of this land and all the generations of people who have taken care of this land - for thousands of years;

AND WHEREAS we recognize and deeply appreciate their historic connection to this place, and respect the traditional knowledge and healing developed over generations;

AND WHEREAS we also recognize the contributions of Métis, Inuit, and Indigenous Peoples of many backgrounds and from many treaty and non-treaty lands and territories who have shaped and strengthened this country;

AND WHEREAS by unanimous vote in the House of Commons in 2009, June was declared as National Indigenous History Month in Canada;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada designated June 21 as National Indigenous Peoples Day – the date was chosen because it corresponds to the summer solstice, the longest day of the year, and for generations many Indigenous Peoples’ groups have celebrated their culture and heritage at this time of year;

AND WHEREAS the contributions of Indigenous Peoples to McNab/Braeside’s past, present, and future are significant but often not well recognized and we commit to advancing Truth and Reconciliation in relationship with Indigenous peoples and communities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside hereby proclaim June as “National Indigenous History Month” and June 21, 2024, as “National Indigenous Peoples Day” in the Township of McNab/Braeside and urge all residents to take this opportunity to honour Indigenous history and culture, and to recognize the profound ways that Indigenous peoples have shaped our Town’s rich culture and communities.

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World Blood Donor Day Proclamation:

WHEREAS World Blood Donor Day takes place on June 14 and is one of only 11 official global public health campaigns marked by the World Health Organization and is celebrated internationally;

AND WHEREAS over half of Canadians will require blood or blood plasma for themselves or know someone who will during their lifetime;

AND WHEREAS only 4% of eligible Canadians donate blood and plasma every year, which equates to just one in 81 potential donors;

AND WHEREAS blood donation includes not only the gift of whole blood, but gifts of plasma, platelets and bone marrow as well;

AND WHEREAS our community needs new donors each year to meet the need for blood now and into the future;

AND WHEREAS blood donors in Canada are the lifeblood of their communities, and their acts of kindness and generosity should be honoured and celebrated;

AND WHEREAS blood donors can help strengthen Canada's Lifeline and make all the difference for patients in our community and beyond;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside hereby proclaim June 14 as "World Blood Donor Day" in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism Proclamation:

WHEREAS the bombing of Air India flight 182 on June 23, 1985 caused the deaths of 329 people;

AND WHEREAS the Air India bombing was the largest mass murder and terrorist act in Canadian history;

AND WHEREAS terrorist attacks are heinous acts against humanity and have claimed thousands of victims worldwide including Canadians who have lost their lives, or experienced the loss of loved ones, through these acts of human violence;

AND WHEREAS it is important that Canadians have an opportunity to honour the memory of the victims of terrorism and to denounce terrorism;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside do hereby proclaim June 23 of every year as a "National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism" in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

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International Literacy Day Proclamation:

WHEREAS in an interconnected world, literacy connects people from every corner of the globe, helping us understand and be understood, no matter our country or culture;

AND WHEREAS on International Literacy Day we celebrate the power of education and the ability to read and write, not only as a fundamental human right, but also as forces for positive change;

AND WHEREAS everyone has the right to access quality education, regardless of who they are and where they live. Beyond our borders, Canada is proud to support global efforts to promote literacy, which brings us closer to bridging the gap in educational disparities in developing countries, including the gender gap in education;

AND WHEREAS on International Literacy Day, we reiterate our commitment to empowering people through education and literacy and creating a future where no one is left behind;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside do hereby proclaim September 8 as "International Literacy Day" in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

Firefighters' National Memorial Day Proclamation:

WHEREAS every day, firefighters in Canada put their lives on the line to protect communities from fire and disaster;

AND WHEREAS their unwavering commitment and readiness to face danger head-on is truly inspiring, and their courage is a true testament to the values they uphold;

AND WHEREAS on Firefighters' National Memorial Day, we honour the dedication and bravery of firefighters in McNab/Braeside and across Canada;

AND WHEREAS this day serves as an opportunity to offer our thanks for their ongoing service, both at home and abroad.

AND WHEREAS we extend our appreciation to their families, whose support is integral to their loved ones' heroism;

AND WHEREAS we take this time to commemorate the fallen firefighters who have tragically lost their lives fighting fires in communities across Canada;

AND WHEREAS we remember and pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Their sacrifices exemplify the highest ideals of selflessness.

AND WHEREAS we reflect on the remarkable service performed by firefighters in McNab/Braeside and across our nation, as well as their continuous devotion to public safety.

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside do hereby proclaim the second Sunday in September as “Firefighters’ National Memorial Day” in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

Terry Fox Day Proclamation:

WHEREAS Terry Fox was an innovator, attempting to run across Canada on one leg on a humanitarian mission we had never seen before;

AND WHEREAS the Terry Fox Run is inspired by a dream as big as our country, which began in 1980 with Terry Fox and his Marathon of Hope. The run is now entirely volunteer driven, and grounded in traditions with events held annually around the world to foster research in the fight against cancer;

AND WHEREAS it has become a tradition in Canada to gather friends and family to participate in a volunteer fundraiser to raise public awareness and financial support for cancer research;

AND WHEREAS we recognize the importance of cancer research as part of the aims and objectives of the Terry Fox Run on behalf of the people of Canada, of the Province of Ontario, and of the Township of McNab/Braeside;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside, do hereby proclaim the second Sunday in September as “Terry Fox Day” in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

Police & Peace Officers’ Memorial Day Proclamation:

WHEREAS Canadian police and peace officers make valuable contributions to the safety of Canadians and it is considered appropriate that there be, in each year, a day to mark and pay tribute to the hard work, dedication and sacrifices made by Canadian police and peace officers;

AND WHEREAS memorial services are held in communities across the country on the last Sunday of September of every year to commemorate those police and peace officers who were killed in the line of duty;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside hereby proclaim the last Sunday in September of each year to be “Police and Peace Officers’ National Memorial Day” in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

Suicide Prevention Day Proclamation:

WHEREAS approximately 4,500 people in Canada die by suicide every year, with suicide being the second leading cause of death among youth and young adults aged 15-34 years;

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AND WHEREAS World Suicide Prevention Day is internationally recognized on September 10th to raise awareness about suicide prevention, reduce stigma, and encourage individuals to seek help;

AND WHEREAS by educating, reaching out, and providing support, we can help reduce the number of lives lost to suicide and offer hope and healing to those affected;

AND WHEREAS there are resources available which gives community members the knowledge and skills to identify those at risk of suicide and make life-saving interventions;

AND WHEREAS by recognizing Suicide Prevention Day, we affirm our commitment to building a thriving, healthy, and inclusive community where all residents feel safe, supported, and heard;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside do hereby proclaim September 10 as “Suicide Awareness Day” in the Township of McNab/Braeside;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT on this day we honour the memory of those who have lost their lives to suicide and extend our heartfelt condolences to their families, friends and share our commitment to prevent future tragedies.

National Day for Truth & Reconciliation Proclamation:

WHEREAS the Government of Canada has established September 30th as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, following the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Call to Action #80, to acknowledge the tragic history and damage inflicted by the legacy of Canada’s Indian Residential School System;

AND WHEREAS this day commemorates and honours the children from Indigenous communities who never returned home, and recognizes the resilience, dignity, and strength of survivors, intergenerational survivors, families and communities;

AND WHEREAS publicly commemorating the tragic and painful history, as well as the ongoing impact of residential schools, is a crucial part of Canada’s reconciliation process;

AND WHEREAS the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action offer essential guidance to individuals and governments in addressing the legacy of residential schools and promoting reconciliation;

AND WHEREAS the Township of McNab/Braeside is dedicated to implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action relating to municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside hereby proclaim September 30th to be ‘National Day for Truth and Reconciliation’ in the Township of McNab/Braeside;

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AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council urges McNab/Braeside residents to observe this day with reflection and action to build understanding of our shared history with Indigenous Peoples, and by acknowledging the truths of our past, we strengthen our commitment to a future founded on respect, unity, and understanding.

National Seniors' Day Proclamation:

WHEREAS National Seniors Day is an opportunity for Canadians to celebrate older adults throughout the country;

AND WHEREAS Seniors contribute immensely to the life and vibrancy of our community by serving as active leaders, caregivers, volunteers, and more;

AND WHEREAS the health and wellbeing of older adults is in the interest of all and adds to the health and wellbeing of our community;

AND WHEREAS the knowledge and experience older adults pass on to us continues to benefit all;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside do hereby declare October 1st as "National Seniors Day" in the McNab/Braeside.

Mental Illness Awareness Week Proclamation:

WHEREAS mental health is an important part of overall health;

AND WHEREAS one in three Canadians say they are struggling with their mental health;

AND WHEREAS many Canadians feel they need professional mental health care but cannot access it;

AND WHEREAS early identification and treatment can make a difference in the successful management of mental illness and recovery;

AND WHEREAS everyone in Canada should have access to publicly funded, evidence-based mental health and substance abuse health programs;

AND WHEREAS every citizen and community can make a difference in helping end the silence and stigma that for too long has surrounded mental illness and discouraged people from getting help;

AND WHEREAS public education and civic activities can encourage mental health and help improve the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside hereby proclaim the first week of October as Mental Illness Awareness Week in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

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Local Government Week Proclamation:

WHEREAS the third full week of October will be celebrated in the Township of McNab/Braeside as Local Government Week;
AND WHEREAS the municipal level of government performs the functions that significantly impact the day-to-day life of citizens throughout the world and are the closest level of government to communities;
AND WHEREAS Local Government Week is a one-week campaign intended to celebrate the significant and key role that municipal governments play in helping to define the character, priorities, amenities and physical make up and quality of life of communities across Ontario;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside hereby proclaim the third full week of October as "Local Government Week" in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

Remembrance Day Proclamation:

WHEREAS Canadians have proudly served in times of war and peace to uphold the tenets of democracy in all parts of the world;
AND WHEREAS Remembrance Day is our opportunity to pay tribute to those who fought for peace and freedom in the world and to pledge that their battles of courage and sacrifice be remembered and carried in our hearts and the hearts of future generations. It is also a time to salute our dedicated peacekeepers serving around the world today and lend our support to their families;
AND WHEREAS on November 11th people of all ages, from different backgrounds and walks of life, gather at cenotaphs and memorials in our communities to honour and remember our brave men and women who gave their lives for peace and freedom;
AND WHEREAS on this day we proudly wear the poppy as a symbol of the poppies that grow at the final resting place of our many soldiers. We commit ourselves to lasting peace at home and around the world and resolve that the lessons of the past must never be forgotten;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Corporation of the Township of McNab/Braeside do hereby proclaim November 11th as Remembrance Day in the Township of McNab/Braeside.

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women Proclamation:

WHEREAS on December 6th, 1989, a massacre occurred at a Canadian university that shook our nation. A young man walked in École Polytechnique de Montreal, and killed 14 women and injured another 10;

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AND WHEREAS established in 1991 by the Parliament of Canada, December 6th was marked as National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women;

AND WHEREAS on average, every six days a woman in Canada is killed by her intimate partner, and this year thousands of women will face violence in the form of harassment, assault, intimate partner violence and many other forms of abuse;

AND WHEREAS ending violence against women can be achieved through constant reminders of our responsibility to treat all members of society with dignity and respect;

AND WHEREAS we can work towards eliminating violence against women through our individual actions in naming the violence when we witness it and supporting those who are affected whether it be at home, school, the workplace or in public spaces;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council of the Township of McNab/Braeside do hereby proclaim December 6th as National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in the Township of McNab/Braeside.