PROCLAMATION

Bill Davis Day

WHEREAS: The Honourable William Grenville "Bill" Davis, 18th premier of Ontario, was born on this day in 1929. A lifelong and passionate resident of Brampton, Mr. Davis served as premier for a total of 13 years from 1971 to 1985, making him one of the longest serving premiers in Ontario history.

As premier, Mr. Davis created Ontario's first ever Ministry of the Environment. He also oversaw the expansion of the Ontario Human Rights Code as well as the province's public health and education sectors. Mr. Davis also played a significant role in patriating Canada's constitution from the United Kingdom, adding it to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which paved the way for the passing of the Constitution Act, 1982.

Prior to his term as premier, Mr. Davis served as Minister of University Affairs as well as Minister of Education. In addition to greatly expanding public funding for education in Ontario, Mr. Davis established several new institutions including a number of Ontario universities, the province's community college system, and the educational network TVO. Mr. Davis also served as a Member of Legislative Assembly of Ontario, representing Peel North from 1967 to 1975, and Peel from 1959 to 1967.

Throughout his life, Mr. Davis has been the recipient of many awards and honours. He was invested as a Companion of the Order of Canada in 1986 and was appointed to the Order of Ontario in 1987. In November 2019, Mr. Davis was presented with Brampton's Key to the City, a symbolic honour that a municipality bestows upon a highly-valued member of the community, who has made a significant impact on the lives of its residents. Mr. Davis, affectionately known as "Brampton Billy," was one of our most beloved residents in Brampton, Ontario's most successful Premier, and the definition of decency. His legacy is one of profound accomplishment.

THEREFORE: I, Mayor Patrick Brown, on behalf of Brampton City Council, do hereby proclaim July 30, 2026, as "Bill Davis Day" in the City of Brampton.

Mayor Patrick Brown, City of Brampton