PROCLAMATION

Red Dress Day

WHEREAS: Red Dress Day was first observed on May 5th, 2010, with the goal of honouring and bringing awareness to the thousands of Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit people who have gone missing or who have been murdered.

Inspired by Jamie Black, a Métis artist based in Winnipeg, Manitoba, hundreds of empty red dresses were hung in public places to represent missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit people.

Brampton is committed to truth and reconciliation. City Council passed motion C248-2019 adopting the Calls to Justice released in the final report from the National Inquiry into MMIWG2S. The MMIWG2S Calls to Justice that are addressed by this initiative are:
1.9: “We call upon all governments to develop laws, policies, and public education campaigns to challenge the acceptance and normalization of violence.”
2.6: “We call upon all governments to educate their citizens about, and to confront and eliminate, racism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia [and develop actions plans]…to end racist and sexualized stereotypes of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people. The plan must target the general public as well as public services.”

These calls to action also align with motion CW241-2023 which declares gender-based violence and intimate-partner violence an epidemic in Brampton.

On Thursday May 2nd at 10:00 am The Indigenous Network and Peel Regional Police in partnership with the City of Brampton’s Equity Office will unveil our Red Dress installation in Ken Whillans Square. The installation will remain open along the walkway beside City Hall until May 31st, 2024.

THEREFORE: I, Mayor Patrick Brown, on behalf of Brampton City Council, do hereby proclaim May 5, 2024 as “Red Dress Day” in the City of Brampton.

Mayor Patrick Brown, City of Brampton