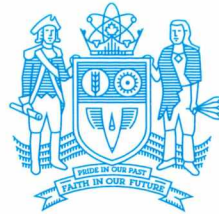


Carolyn Parrish

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November 4, 2024

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Ontario Legislature, Rm 281
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Re: Declaring Christian Heritage Month in the Province of Ontario

Dear Premier Ford,

On behalf of Mississauga City Council, I am writing to draw your attention to a resolution (attached) passed by our Council on October 30, 2024. This resolution declares December as Christian Heritage Month in the City of Mississauga and urges the Province to adopt this declaration across Ontario.

Ontario is one of the most diverse places in the world, home to people from many cultures, practicing many faiths, including Christianity. Christians of all denominations have made valuable contributions to Mississauga and Ontario, and they are a big part of our diversity and cultural fabric as the largest religion in Canada. By passing the resolution at Mississauga Council, we join many other communities in Ontario that have done the same. December was chosen as it is widely associated with the tradition of gift giving, the gathering of family and friends, and the celebration of faith through the observance of Advent by Christians.

We hope you will consider this request as an opportunity for the Province to recognize and honour the contributions Christians have made to Ontario. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Carolyn Parrish
Mayor

Cc., Hon. Nina Tangri, Associate Minister of Small Business
Hon. Natalia Kusndova, Minister of Long-Term Care
Sheref Sabawy, MPP
Deepak Anand, MPP
Rudy Cuzzetto, MPP



MISSISSAUGA

RESOLUTION 0228-2024
 adopted by the Council of
 The Corporation of the City of Mississauga
 at its meeting on October 30, 2024

0228-2024

Moved by: B. Butt

Seconded by: J. Kovac

WHEREAS the City of Mississauga is one of the most diverse and multicultural cities in Canada, where people of all cultures, ethnicities, backgrounds, and faiths are welcomed, recognized, and celebrated;

AND WHEREAS Christianity is among the diverse faiths followed by Mississauga residents and one of the most followed religions in Canada and Mississauga;

AND WHEREAS Christians have made valuable contributions to the cultural, social, religious, and humanitarian fabric of our City and have played an important role in shaping our diverse community;

AND WHEREAS the month of December is marked by significant events and celebrations in the Christian calendar, commencing with the observance of Advent and culminating in the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, which is also known as Christmas;

AND WHEREAS Christian organizations and places of worship in Mississauga offer religious services, unique events, and initiatives that highlight a strong Christian heritage during the month of December;

AND WHEREAS the month of December is also widely associated with the tradition of gift giving and the gathering of family, friends, and people of all faiths, during the Christmas season;

AND WHEREAS recognizing the month of December, which is a significant month in the Christian calendar, as "Christian Heritage Month" provides an opportunity for all residents to celebrate the history, traditions, and teachings of the Christian faith, promoting understanding and appreciation of the diverse religious and cultural heritage of our City;

AND WHEREAS recognizing and celebrating "Christian Heritage Month" also provides an opportunity to honour the contributions of Christians to our City's past, present, and future, while promoting inclusivity, unity, and respect for all residents;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The month of December is recognized as "Christian Heritage Month" in the City of Mississauga; and
2. The Council of the City of Mississauga call upon the Government of Ontario to recognize the month of December as "Christian Heritage Month" in the Province of Ontario; and

3. A copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier; and all Mississauga MPPs.

Recorded Vote	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Mayor C. Parrish				
Councillor S. Dasko	X			
Councillor A. Tedjo	X			
Councillor C. Fonseca	X			
Councillor J. Kovac	X			
Councillor N. Hart	X			
Councillor J. Horneck	X			
Councillor D. Damerla	X			
Councillor M. Mahoney	X			
Councillor M. Reid	X			
Councillor S. McFadden			X	
Councillor B. Butt	X			

Carried (10, 0, 1 Absent)