



# CHESTERMERE

From the Office of the Mayor

## Proclamation

Name: Mennonite Heritage Week

Date: September 13 – 17, 2021

**WHEREAS:**

The City of Chestermere recognizes the important contributions that Mennonite Canadians have made to Chestermere's/Alberta's social, economic, cultural & political foundation. Mennonite Heritage week is an opportunity to remember, celebrate, promote & educate the present and future generations about Mennonite Canadians & the important roles they have played and continue to play in enriching communities of City of Chestermere, and

**WHEREAS:**

Mennonites came to what is now Canada as early as the late 1700s to escape war and persecution in other lands. They risked everything to come to a place where they would be safe; they sought freedom to practice their faith and to live their lives in peace. In the late 1800s, 18,000 Dutch Mennonites fled Russia to seek refuge in North America. Today, approximately 200,000 Mennonites call Canada home. Congregations worship in at least 14 languages, in addition to their native German dialect and English. Mennonites now represent all parts of the globe, including the indigenous people of Canada.

The history of the Mennonites and their ability to contribute to building an open, welcoming, and prosperous society is a testament to the values they hold dear. These are Canadian values and

**WHEREAS:**

On May 29, 2019, the Government of Canada adopted a motion to officially declare the second week of September as Mennonite Heritage Week. This week is an opportunity to learn more about Mennonite Canadians, their unique history, their vibrant culture, and their contributions that have helped shape our country and





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**WHEREAS:**

The city of Chestermere is a multicultural city which is connected by diverse heritage and where the city inspires its residents to celebrate their diversity & create greater cross-cultural understanding, thereby promoting inclusiveness. The more we can learn about one another's struggles, the more we can grow our compassion for one another.

**NOW THEREFORE,**

I, Marshall Chalmers, Mayor of the City of Chestermere, do hereby designate the week of **September 13-17, 2021** as **Mennonite Heritage Week** in the City of Chestermere.

Dated this 29 day of October, 2020

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Mayor Marshall Chalmers

