



August 13, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister,

RE: Formal Apology from Canadian Government to African Canadians for Slavery

At its Regular Meeting of August 4, 2020, the Town of Essex Council received a presentation by Elise Harding-Davis, African Canadian Heritage Consultant, seeking Council's support for her initiative requesting that the Government of Canada issue a formal public apology to African Canadians for enslaving people of African origin. In her presentation Ms. Harding-Davis emphasized that a public apology from the Canadian government will act as a catalyst to open meaningful dialogue and begin true change toward equity.

As a result of Council's discussion, the following resolution was passed,

"Moved by Councillor Verbeek
Seconded by Councillor Bowman

(R20-08-265) That the public presentation by Elise Harding-Davis, from the African Canadian Heritage Consultant, asking Council to support the initiative to receive a formal apology from the Canadian Government to African Canadians for slavery, be received and supported; and

That a letter be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada in support of Ms. Harding-Davis' initiative to seek a formal apology from the Canadian Government regarding this nation's role in enslaving people of African origin. That a copy of the correspondence be sent to the County Municipalities and the County of Essex. "Carried"

If you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned.



Most respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Auger".

Robert Auger, L.L.B.
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cc Mary Birch, Director of Council and Community Services/Clerk
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