



At its July 21, 2025 Regular Council Meeting the Town of Essex approved the following proclamation:

## **Proclamation**

Emancipation Day

August 1, 2025

**WHEREAS**, August 1, 1834 was the date that slavery was abolished throughout the British Colonies by King William IV pursuant to the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833; and

**WHEREAS**, within fifteen years of the abolition of slavery, between 35,000 and 40,000 Black settlers made their way to Ontario in large part by the Underground Railroad into Southwestern Ontario.

**Therefore, Be It Resolved That** I, Sherry Bondy, do hereby proclaim August 1, 2025 as Emancipation Day in the Town of Essex as a demonstration of our respect for human liberty and freedom and in recognition of the richness of the culture and history brought to Ontario by African Canadians.

Sherry Bondy,  
Mayor of the Town of Essex

