

Proclamation Request Form

Requests for the issuance of proclamations are governed by Council Policy (excerpted below). Requests must be received at least six (6) weeks in advance of the requested issuance date and may be emailed to the City Clerk at ClerksApprovalRequests@london.ca or mailed to City Hall, P.O. Box 5035 LONDON, ON, N6A 4L9.

Request details

Name of Organization Ink Stained Wretches
Date Proclamation Required May 3, 2024
Proclamation Name World Press Freedom Day
Proclamation Type (day, week or month) Day
Category (public awareness campaigns), (charitable fundraising campaigns), (arts and cultural celebrations) Public Awareness Campaign
Requester Name Celeste Laube Benini
Requester Telephone Number
Requester Email Address
Requester Address Summit Avenue London, ON N6H 2G5
Provide details of your Organization's Connection to London Ink-stained Wretches is a grassroots volunteer advocacy group formed in March 2020 by former newsroom workers at the Waterloo Region Record newspaper. They currently work with Journalism students from Western University to get proclamations passed around Canada. Western University is located in London, Ontario.
Required Supporting Documents <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Detail information on the Organization• Detail information on the Event• Confirmation of authorization from the Organization to submit the request
The undersigned confirms that I am the Official Representative of the Organization requesting the Proclamation and that by signing this Application, I acknowledge and agree that my organization complies with all City of London's Policies and By-laws Signature  Date Feb, 23 2024
NOTICE OF COLLECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION Personal information collected on this form is collected under the authority of the <i>Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25</i> and may also be used for purposes related to the Issuance of Proclamations Policy and Proclamation Request Form. Questions about this collection should be addressed to the City Clerk, 3rd floor, City Hall, 300 Dufferin Ave., London, ON N6A 4L9. Tel: 519-661-2489, ext. 4937, email: csaunder@london.ca



Friday, Feb. 23, 2024

Dear, Clerk.

Please accept this letter as confirmation that Celeste Laube, a student in the Master of Media in Journalism and Communication program at Western University, is submitting this application for the proclamation of World Press Freedom Day (May 3, 2024) in London, Ont., on behalf of [ink-stained Wretches](http://ink-stainedwretches.org).

If you require further confirmation, please feel free to contact me at ink.stained.campaign@gmail.com

Thank you for your consideration.

Mirko Petricevic

Co-ordinator

[Ink-stained Wretches](http://ink-stainedwretches.org)

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Organization name: Ink-stained Wretches

Website: ink-stainedwretches.org

Address: Summit Ave. London, Ontario

Contact name: Celeste Laube

Title: London Member, Ink-stained Wretches

Phone:

Email:

Event name: UN World Press Freedom Day

Date: May 3, 2024

History and background of event/organization and how this event will be used to benefit the organization and/or cause:

Background of United Nations World Press Freedom Day

This year marks the 31st anniversary since the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed May 3 as World Press Freedom Day. The theme for 2024 is “A Press for the Planet: Journalism in the face of the Environmental Crisis”

The following description is from the UNESCO World Press Freedom Day [website](#):
“3 May acts as a reminder to governments of the need to respect their commitment to press freedom and is also a day of reflection among media professionals about issues of press freedom and professional ethics. Just as importantly, World Press Freedom Day is a day of support for media which are targets for the restraint, or abolition, of press freedom. It is also a day of remembrance for those journalists who lost their lives in the pursuit of a story.”

Background of our organization

[Ink-stained Wretches](#) is a grassroots volunteer advocacy group formed in March 2020 by former newsroom workers at the Waterloo Region Record newspaper. Long concerned with the decline in robust local journalism in their municipality and across Canada, the group is working to build a culture of appreciation for quality journalism. Last year, 28 municipalities recognized World Press Freedom Day in one way or another — mostly through mayoral proclamations. For a full list of participating municipalities, view the [campaigns web page](#).

Helping our group’s cause

ink-stainedwretches.org

World Press Freedom Day – May 3, 2024



Building a culture of appreciation for journalism in Canada will take many acts over many years. Each civic recognition adds a solid brick to this long-term building project.

Lighting

If your municipality would like to display colours for the occasion, please use United Nations white and blue. *According to the [UN quick style guide](#), blue is **R 0 G158 B 219** or Hex: **#009edb***

Proclamation
World Press Freedom Day
May 3, 2024

WHEREAS, a healthy, professional news media is essential for the proper functioning of civil society and democracy at the local, regional, federal and international levels, and

WHEREAS, The United Nations has proclaimed “World Press Freedom Day” as an annual observance each May 3rd; and

WHEREAS, according to the [Local News Research Project](#), 516 news outlets in 345 communities across Canada have closed or merged from 2008 to December 2023 (compared to the opening of 215 in 152 communities), and

WHEREAS, **London** is among [29 municipalities](#) — home to more than 13 million people in nine provinces across Canada — that have passed motions since 2020 voicing support for journalism in aid of democracy, and

WHEREAS, **London** was among 28 municipalities in one territory and nine provinces across Canada that recognized World Press Freedom Day in 2023, and

WHEREAS, the theme for World Press Freedom Day 2024 is “A Press for the Planet: Journalism in the face of the Environmental Crisis,”

THEREFORE, I, **Josh Morgan**, Mayor of **London**, do hereby proclaim May 3rd, 2024, as World Press Freedom Day.

XXXXXXXXX, Mayor