

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 #1792Project
Date Proclamation Required On September 1, we proclaim acknowledgement of the 230th anniversary of the BLack Loyalist Exodus on 15 Ships to Sierra Leone
Proclamation Name 230th Anniversary: Black Loyalist Exodus: 15 Ships to Sierra Leone
Proclamation Type (day, week or month) Proclaimed for the month
Category (public awareness campaigns), (charitable fundraising campaigns), (arts and cultural celebrations) Public Awareness Campaign
Requester Name kathrin winkler (on behalf of #1792Project Team)
Requester Telephone Number
Requester Email Address
Requester Address Edinburgh St, Halifax, NS. B3L1W2
Provide details of your Organization's Connection to London #1792Project believes that this public awareness campaign is directly linked to the work undertaken by London's Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Division. Understanding the extensive history of slavery and race in this country, links us all to solutions in all of our communities

Required Supporting Documents

- 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



July 4, 2022

NOTICE OF COLLECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

Personal information collected on this form is collected under the authority of the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25* 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



Dear Mayor and Council,

This year marks the 230th anniversary of the remarkable Black Loyalist exodus from Halifax to Freetown. This journey is the single, largest return of African descendants to the continent of Africa throughout history. **Please join 230 mayors and councils from across Canada to acknowledge this 230th anniversary year by proclamation and/or social media.** We acknowledge the importance of your leadership for community and change, and respectfully request your support for this initiative.

#1792Project began in Nova Scotia. The story of the 15 Ships to Sierra Leone departing Halifax harbour on January 15, 1792, is not only a Maritime story. This voyage has had an impact on all of Canadian society. Together we can address this omission in our history books to reach a fuller understanding of the history of slavery and race in this nation. Over 25 municipalities have issued proclamations in Nova Scotia and the town of Shelburne leads this initiative of cross Canada Proclamations.

Black Loyalists were self liberated individuals who came to Nova Scotia after the American Revolution, as did the white Loyalists who brought with them an estimated 1,232 slaves.¹ Broken promises of land and liberation together with remarkable courage to cross the ocean at the height of the trans-Atlantic chattel slave trade remains an untold story of resilience of the 1,196 seafarers who chose to leave. But it is also a story of failure of community and government to provide safe haven here on these shores for these Black Loyalists. Through participation and education we must all do better to connect the history of failures to how the legacy of this history continues.

We, the [#1792Project](#) team, are community members, students and educators and we have come together in the imperative of sharing, commemorating and acknowledging this story through education. How can we make a difference as a grassroots effort?

We request that your municipal government as one of 230 municipalities across Canada proclaim and recognize the historic departure of 15 ships prepared in the dead of winter (the Lucretia, the Somerset, the Beaver, the Parr, the Venus, the Mary, the Catherine, the Prince William, the Sierra Leone, the Morning Star, the Eleanor, the Felicity, Prince Fleury, the Brothers, and the Betsey) for a journey of hope. Please find a sample proclamation below.

Sincerely,

Karen Hudson, kathrin winkler, Carol Millett #1792Project

¹ James W. St. G. Walker, *The Black Loyalists: The Search for a Promised Land in Nova Scotia and Sierra Leone, 1783-1870*, page 40.

SAMPLE/DRAFT Proclamation : Municipal Council and Mayor

Whereas we proclaim the 230th anniversary of 15 ships departing the harbour of Halifax in 1792, and that the conditions and causes that led to the exodus of 1,196 self liberated Black Loyalist were conditions of abject institutionalized racism and that this departure took place at the height of the transatlantic chattel slave trade, one of the cruelest chapters in the history of humanity.

Whereas the recognizes that people of African descent have been a part of Canadian society since the early 1600s and that their enslavement occurred on this land for centuries and that the Black Loyalists departure is linked to the failure of institutional, political and societal will to fulfill the promises that were made to the communities that left for Sierra Leone.

Whereas is committed to promote histories such as the 15 Ships to Sierra Leone that often have been left in a vacuum of erasure throughout Canada. The resources provided for well known monumentation have historically been funded at the expense of those erasures.

Whereascontinues to recognize the ongoing significance of the UN Decade of African Descent and the importance of recognizing the history of Black Loyalists in Nova Scotia and throughout Canada. We recognize that rural or urban, from sea to sea we share a responsibility for reparation.

Whereas we recognize that secure housing and land was promised to these early settlers and very few [received what was owed](#). Despite petitions ([by Thomas Peters](#))the promised land and supplies were not provided . For many Black Loyalists, shared Mi'kmaq knowledge was key to survival in the first winters. Reparations for injustice is the path forward.

Thereby be it resolved that I, Mayor _____ declare 2022 as the 230th anniversary - Year of Black Loyalist Exodus: 15 Ships to Sierra Leone #1792Project

MORE INFORMATION #1792 Project Team (We are happy to present the project to council)

- [CityNews Everywhere Article: Local school marks African Heritage Month with the #1792Project](#)
- [Cole Harbour Wire Article: The class of...1792](#)
- [Global News Article - Nova Scotia students commemorate Black Loyalists who sailed to Sierra Leone in 1792](#)
- [CBC Article: N.S. pays tribute to Black Loyalists who sailed to Sierra Leone in 1792](#)
- [YouTube: #1792 Project - Freetown Sierra Leone](#)
- [Happy birthday Song To King Adebayoh - Sierra Leone Music 2020](#)

Elementary/Junior High Resources:

- [Elementary and Junior H.S. Students - #1792 Project Resources and Lesson Starters](#)
- ["Message in a Bottle- 15 Ships to Sierra Leone."](#)
- [Black Loyalist site: Nova Scotia](#)
- [Black Loyalist site: New Brunswick](#)
- [Thomas Clarkson's journal](#)
- [The journals of Black Loyalists Boston King and David George](#)
- [tREv clothing design](#)

Attachment(s):



[samara_hudson-ash_and_zais_letters_003.pdf](#)



[letter_to_the_editor_1792project_-_230th_anniversary_of_15_ships_to_sierra_leone.pdf](#)



[elementary_and_junior_h.s._students_1792_project.pdf](#)