

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February 2018

- WHEREAS:** throughout its history, Bradford West Gwillimbury has been characterized and strengthened by its diverse and distinctive cultures;
- WHEREAS:** people of African descent have made significant contributions to the betterment of our society, and play a vital role within our social and cultural mosaic;
- WHEREAS:** Black History Month was first recognized in Ontario as February 1993, marking the 200th anniversary of the passage of legislation prohibiting the importation of slaves into Upper Canada;
- WHEREAS:** John Graves Simcoe, Upper Canada's first lieutenant governor, initiated the abolishment of slavery in Canada;
- WHEREAS:** Black people – both free people and slaves seeking their freedom via the Underground Railroad – traversed this area to settle in Simcoe County;
- WHEREAS:** Black History Month continues to provide the opportunity to remember and celebrate the contributions of African Canadians;
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**
that His Worship Mayor Rob Keffer and Members of Council proclaim February 2018 as BLACK HISTORY MONTH in the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury.

ALL ARE WELCOME

The BWG Diversity Group will be hosting an event featuring speakers and music in recognition of Black History Month. It will take place on Saturday, February 10 from 1-3pm, in the Zima Room of the BWG Public Library & Cultural Centre.