

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM23.6	ACTION			Ward: All
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Proclaiming December as Christian Heritage Month - by Councillor Nick Mantas, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata

**Notice of this Motion has been given.*

**This motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Nick Mantas, seconded by Councillor Frances Nunziata, recommends that:

1. City Council proclaim December as Christian Heritage Month.

Summary

Christianity is the most followed religion in our country, with more than half of the Canadian population identifying as members of the Christian faith. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms even mentions God in its very first sentence.

In December, Christians around the world prepare for their annual celebrations commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ; also known as Christmas. During this time, Christian faith groups utilize literature, art, music, gastronomy, and architecture to tell the stories of Jesus and his compassion, love, acceptance and the Good News of the Gospel he brought.

December is associated with the tradition of gift giving and gathering of family, friends, and people of all faiths. Christian organizations and places of worship offer religious services, unique events, and initiatives that highlight a strong Christian heritage during the month of December.

Despite the days, weeks and even months being dedicated to other religions and heritages, there is no such recognition for the Christian faith in Canada. As proud citizens of this diverse and culturally rich nation, we believe it is important to recognize and celebrate the contributions of all religious and cultural groups. As of today, the following Municipalities across Canada have proclaimed December as Christian Heritage Month: Ajax, Aurora, Bradford, Caledon, Clarington, Durham Region, Markham, Brampton, Milton, Mississippi Mills, Orillia, Ottawa, Pickering, Rideau Lakes, Sudbury, Wainfleet, Welland, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon, Prince George, Whistler, Red Deer and Okotos.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM23.6