WHEREAS Louis Riel is recognized as a political and spiritual leader of the Métis people and a founder of confederation. He was executed on this day in 1885 for leading the Northwest Resistance in defense of the Métis people and their lands.

In 1885, volunteers from Toronto answered the call to fight against Louis Riel at the North-West Resistance. Historical truth has come to light since then, and Riel is recognized as a visionary whose beliefs and principles, as a leader for minority rights, resonates with the Métis and greater community. Toronto has many vibrant Métis citizens and an active Métis community including the Toronto and York Region Métis Council.

Today, we remember Louis Riel and those who fought alongside Riel for what they believed. Toronto City Council and the people of Toronto recognize Louis Riel’s contribution to Métis communities. We also acknowledge the contributions the Métis make to our city.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mayor John Tory, on behalf of Toronto City Council, do hereby proclaim November 16, 2020 as "Louis Riel Day" in the City of Toronto.

John Tory
Mayor of Toronto