

MOTION TO DECLARE EVERY MONTH OF MAY AS JEWISH HERITAGE MONTH IN THE CITY OF WHITE ROCK

Whereas there is a historic Jewish population in the City of White Rock;

Whereas the Jewish population of the City of White Rock reflects the rich and varied history of the Jewish people comprising a population tracing its origins to many different parts of the world and embracing the many different traditions and practices within Judaism;

Whereas Statistics Canada notes that the Jewish population in the country is approximately 400,000 people, more than 1% of the total Canadian population, making it the fourth-largest Jewish population in the world;

Whereas the Jewish community has a long and proud history in Canada and has made significant contributions to the wellbeing, growth and prosperity of Canada while overcoming tremendous obstacles;

Whereas Jews have excelled in a wide range of endeavours including the arts, sciences, the law, architecture, media, finance, entertainment and business significantly contributing to Canadian life;

Whereas the month of May is meaningful for the Jewish community around the world;

Whereas in 2018 Parliament adopted Bill S-232 "An Act respecting Canadian Jewish Heritage Month" designating the month of May as Canadian Jewish Heritage Month thereby recognizing the important contributions that Jewish Canadians have made to Canada's social, economic, political, and cultural fabric;

Whereas Parliament declared that the Canadian Jewish Heritage Month would provide an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about the inspirational role that Jewish Canadians have played and continue to play in communities across the country;

Whereas B'nai Brith a Jewish human rights organization that has been active nationally in Canada since 1875, has invited municipalities to enhance Parliament's declaration of the Canadian Jewish Heritage Month by adopting their own motions and promoting the celebration of the heritage month within their territory each May;

It is moved by

Seconded by

That White Rock Ciyyu Council declare that commencing May 2022 every month of May be celebrated as Jewish Heritage Month in the municipality;

That City Council recognize the contributions of the Jewish community to the success of Canada;

That City Council mandate the City Clerk and municipal services to ensure the celebration of Jewish Heritage Month every May through exhibits and performances highlighting Jewish history and culture to take place at City Hall and elsewhere in the municipality.