

July 31, 2020

Alex Ruff, Member of Parliament  
Bruce – Grey – Owen Sound  
1102 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue East, Suite 208  
Owen Sound, ON N4K 2J1

Dear Mr. Ruff:

**Re: Support for Private Member's Bill M-36 – Emancipation Day**

At its Regular meeting held on July 27, 2020, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Owen Sound considered the above noted matter and passed Resolution No. R-200727-023 as follows:

R-200727-023

**"THAT Owen Sound City Council acknowledges and supports the following Private Members Bill put forward by Majid Jowhari: M-36, Emancipation Day, 43rd Parliament, 1st Session that reads as follows:**

**"THAT the House recognizes that:**

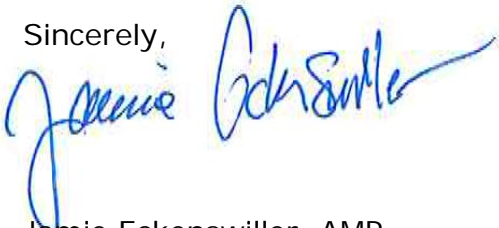
- a. The British Parliament abolished slavery in the British Empire as of August 1, 1834;**
- b. Slavery existed in the British North America prior to the abolition in 1834;**
- c. Abolitionists and others who struggled against slavery, including those who arrived in Upper and Lower Canada by the Underground Railroad, have historically celebrated August 1st as Emancipation;**
- d. The Government of Canada announced on January 30, 2018 that it would officially recognize the United Nations International Decade for people of African Descent to highlight the important contributions that people of African descent have made to Canadian society, and to provide a platform for confronting anti-Black racism;**
- e. The heritage of Canada's peoples of African descent and the contributions they have made and continue to make to Canada and in the opinion of the House, the Government should designate August 1 of every year as "Emancipation Day" in Canada."; and**

**THAT support for this motion be sent to the Member of Parliament for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound and all House of Commons representatives; and**

**THAT support for this motion be sent to all municipalities in Ontario."**

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jamie Eckenswiller", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Jamie Eckenswiller, AMP  
Deputy Clerk  
City of Owen Sound

cc. All Members of the House of Commons  
All Ontario Municipalities