



## **City of Spruce Grove Proclamation International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

**March 21, 2026**

WHEREAS; the International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed annually on March 21 to commemorate the tragic day in 1960 when police in Sharpeville, South Africa opened fire on a peaceful crowd of anti-apartheid demonstrators, killing 69 people; and

WHEREAS; a history of systemic and individual racial discrimination and racism in Canada has contributed to violent hate crimes; and

WHEREAS; individuals who endure injustices and prejudices rooted in racism, discrimination, and hate must draw upon profound strength and resilience; and

WHEREAS; the City of Spruce Grove values diversity, equality, and inclusion and strives to create a sense of belonging for every resident; and

WHEREAS; it is our responsibility to uphold the human rights of every Spruce Grove resident and ensure the conditions required to realize their potential and participate in community life however they see fit, regardless of race, ethnic origin, or nationality, and live at all times with dignity, respect, and peace; and

WHEREAS; the City of Spruce Grove is committed to understanding and addressing local inequities by reviewing City Policies and Bylaws through an equity lens and amplifying the voices of individuals who experience racism to inform decision making;

THEREFORE, I, Jeff Acker, Mayor of the City of Spruce Grove, do hereby proclaim the March 21, 2026 as International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination in the City of Spruce Grove, and affirm the City's commitment to eliminating racial discrimination today and everyday and encourage all residents to do the same.