



**PROCLAMATION
Emancipation Day
August 1, 2026**

WHEREAS, August 1 is Emancipation Day commemorating the anniversary date of 1834 when the British parliament abolished slavery across its empire, freeing about 800,000 enslaved people of African descent throughout the British colonies; and

WHEREAS, Nova Scotia joined the world in recognizing August 1 as Emancipation Day by officially legislating the Emancipation Day Act on April 19, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Emancipation Day recognizes the history and impacts of slavery in the province; and

WHEREAS, The institution of slavery was foundational to the history of systemic anti-Black racism that has impacted people of African descent in Nova Scotia for generations; and

WHEREAS, Slavery continued in the Province of Nova Scotia until the early 1800s; and

WHEREAS, The Town of New Glasgow is home to a historic and vibrant Black community that has spanned generations, contributing greatly to the cultural, civic, and social fabric of our town; and

WHEREAS, We must acknowledge that slavery was part of our province and country's horrific past and this history must be shared in our efforts to work together to address anti-Black racism and all forms of racism so all Nova Scotians can prosper, reach their full potential, and live as equal citizens; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, I, Mayor Nancy Dicks, do hereby proclaim August 1, 2026, as “**Emancipation Day**” in the Town of New Glasgow.

Mayor Nancy Dicks