

Welland celebrates Francophone community with flag raising for Franco-Ontarian Day

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Welland, ON – In celebration of Franco-Ontarian Day on Sept. 25, the City of Welland recognizes and acknowledges Niagara's Francophone population and will raise the Franco-Ontarian flag at City Hall on Sept. 23. at 9:30 a.m.

The City of Welland is one of Ontario's 26 designated Francophone communities.

"The Francophone community makes up our city's identity and recognizing and celebrating their contributions to our daily lives and culture is something we're proud to do," said Mayor Frank Campion. "It gives me great pleasure to raise the Franco-Ontarian flag in recognition and support of our French-Canadian community here in Welland."

Visiting <u>Discover Welland -- Decouvrir</u> on the City's website allows visitors a French-language section rich with information on the best places to see and visit in the City as well as highlight Welland's attractions, history of Francophone culture, sister city Sorel-Tracy in Quebec, and relevant links to related news and resources.

The City of Welland continues to strengthen partnerships with organizations such as Francophone Employment and Resource Centre (CERF-Niagara), Centre de Santé Communautaire, Foyer Richelieu Welland, l'Auberge Richelieu Welland, Collége Boréal, and Paroisse Sacré-Cœur. These organizations are vital in supporting Welland's French-speaking families.

Minister of Francophone Affairs, the Honourable Caroline Mulroney, also wrote a <u>letter</u> of support to the City of Welland for advancing the Francophone community's many contributions to the City and the province.

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