



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

### NEWCOMERS ARE WELCOME IN RED DEER PROCLAMATION

- Whereas** Newcomers are a vital part of Red Deer—bringing diverse cultural practices, fresh perspectives and new ideas, starting businesses, and contributing to the vibrant community that we all value. During Newcomer Welcoming Week, we invite all Red Deerians to join this national and international movement of welcoming Newcomers to our community. By working together, we can achieve greater prosperity and make Red Deer the kind of place where diverse people from around the world are able to thrive, feel included, valued and want to put down roots; and
- Whereas** It is important to take the time to appreciate the challenges Newcomers experience and overcome. Stepping into new spaces, environments, languages, traditions, economies, and cultural practices can be incredibly challenging and often isolating. Youth must abruptly shift expectations, ideas of belonging, and learn new languages and ways to engage; often dreams and aspirations that were once easily achievable seem impossible. Professionals often end up underemployed or completely starting over. Often refugees leave incredibly traumatic situations and must recover while starting a new life. Leaving a home you know and a culture you understand doesn't mean you stop loving the spaces, places, and people you left behind. Overcoming the challenges requires perseverance, commitment, and an incredible amount of faith that the new community will be inclusive and accessible; and
- Whereas** Regardless of where we are born or what we look like, we are Red Deer, united in our efforts to build a stronger diverse and inclusive community. Recognizing and supporting the contributions Newcomers make to create a vibrant culture and growing economy, helps to make our community more prosperous and more inclusive to all who call it home; and
- Whereas** The Red Deed Local Immigration Partnership (RDLIP) is a collaborative initiative between settlement agencies and diverse organizational stakeholders that aims to improve the social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing of newcomers. RDLIP works to strengthen community integration, develop economic prosperity, and create equitable housing, health, and other essential services. RDLIP promotes equity, inclusion and diversity throughout Red Deer.

**Therefore** pl, Ken Johnston, Mayor of the City of Red Deer, recognize that September 12-21, 2025, is Newcomer Welcoming Week and encourage Red Deerians to find opportunities to learn, experience, and understand the history of settlement and the vital role Newcomers contribute to the community today. I hereby affirm our city's success depends on ensuring that all residents of Red Deer feel welcome here. We call upon the people of Red Deer to work together to build stronger communities across our city. This week, we honour the spirit of unity that brings neighbours together across Red Deer. Let us come together to build communities where every resident feels included and has the opportunity to contribute at their best and reaffirm that Red Deer is a welcoming community.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Official Seal of The City of Red Deer, Alberta, to be affixed.



Mayor Ken Johnston  
City of Red Deer

