



EMANCIPATION DAY COMMITTEE OF WINDSOR

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Emancipation Day 2020 Celebration

Windsor, May 30, 2020: The Emancipation Day Committee of Windsor has cancelled its 2020 festival planned for August 1st in Lanspeary Park.

The Emancipation Day 2019 Celebration welcomed over 500 guests, calling it the best ever single day Emancipation Day event in many years. While organizers and participants alike believed that 2020 would be that much greater, the event is now being cancelled due to COVID-19.

Emancipation Day, celebrated each year on the first weekend of August, commemorates the abolition of slavery across the British Empire. Walter Perry organized Windsor's first celebration in 1932, which for many years was called the 'Greatest Freedom Show on Earth' with greats such as Diana Ross, The Temptations, Stevie Wonder and The Supremes taking the stage and drawing hundreds of thousands of people.

"Unfortunately, as we all know, the Covid-19 pandemic has irrevocably changed lives not just locally but globally," says Bradley Jones, President of the Emancipation Day Committee of Windsor. "Our unique community is our Committee's only reason for being - a unique community that we must encourage to stay healthy and safe."

In heeding the advice of the Ministry of Health, and following suit with Caribana and Carousel of Nations, the traditional Windsor's Emancipation Day Celebration is being postponed until August 2021. Like so many other groups, Board Members of the Emancipation Day Committee of Windsor hesitated to cancel but wanted to do their part for the community.

"Let me take this opportunity to once again say how grateful to we are to our sponsors and patrons, who have continually supported our Emancipation Day Celebration. We look forward to bringing you another amazing festival-like celebration in 2021. Meanwhile, let me encourage everyone to stay home if you can, stay safe and put family first," says Jones.

For more information, please call 519-990-6511 or email info@edcw.ca