

Nowruz Day
March 20, 2015

WHEREAS in 2010, the United Nations General Assembly recognized the International Day of Nowruz for the holiday's inherent promotion of peace and solidarity. This day reaffirms a commitment to intercultural understanding, mutual respect and our cultural diversity.

On the first day of spring, people in Toronto and around the world will gather to celebrate Nowruz, an ancient Persian festival that has spanned thousands of years to bring in a "new day" or "new year".

Nowruz symbolizes the affirmation of life in harmony with nature, an awareness of the inseparable link between constructive labour and natural cycles of renewal.

The City of Toronto is one of the most multicultural cities in the world and we are proud of the people of our city who have made Toronto their home. Through their skills, knowledge and experience, our city has grown into a thriving and exciting metropolis of which we are most proud.

Toronto City Council and the people of Toronto are committed to creating an inclusive society and we thank those who contribute to Toronto's most important value that is illustrated in our City's motto - Diversity is Our Strength. We are also proud that in Canada, the City of Toronto has the greatest number of residents celebrating Nowruz each year.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mayor John Tory, on behalf of Toronto City Council do hereby proclaim **March 20, 2015 as "Nowruz Day"** in the City of Toronto.



Mayor John Tory
City of Toronto