



**WELCOMING WEEK
SEPTEMBER 13-22, 2024**

WHEREAS the success of the Town depends on ensuring that all residents of Okotoks feel welcome; and

WHEREAS new Okotokians are a vital part of our community – bringing fresh perspectives and new ideas, starting businesses, and contributing to the vibrant diversity valued by the Town; and

WHEREAS this week, we honor the spirit of unity that brings neighbours together across the Town of Okotoks; and

WHEREAS the Town of Okotoks invites all Okotokians to join this movement of communities – nationwide and worldwide – by renewing our commitment to core values and taking action in the spirit of welcoming. By working together, Okotokians can achieve greater prosperity and ensure the Town welcomes diverse people from around the world to feel valued; and

WHEREAS regardless of where we are born or what we look like, we are Okotokians, united in our efforts to build a stronger Town. By recognizing the contributions that we all make to create a vibrant culture and growing economy, we make our community more prosperous and inclusive to all who call it home; and

WHEREAS the Proclamation of Welcoming Week gives Okotokians the chance to celebrate inclusivity in our community.

THEREFORE Members of Okotoks Town Council do hereby proclaim September 13-22, 2024 as Welcoming Week in the Town of Okotoks.

Dated this 9th day of September 2024.

-----Original Signed-----

Tanya Thorn
Mayor



Welcoming Week 2024

Welcoming Week is a celebration to showcase the shift of communities striving to be more welcoming places for all, including immigrants. This year's Welcoming Week takes place from September 13 - 22. This is a great initiative upon what is already in place in the Foothills region to welcome newcomers.

How you can participate

Here are some tips and shareable content to help you spread messages about inclusion and the benefits of immigration on your website and social media channels, or during events and meetings. I encourage you to do what works best for your community or organization.

Event ideas

- Check which activities are already being organized in your community during the Welcoming Week period, so that they can easily be linked to this week.
- Local park clean-up or other community work
- A cooking demonstration with an newcomer chef
- A dance party with an newcomer DJ
- A film screening or book club featuring an newcomer filmmaker/author or film/book related to immigration
- A networking or training opportunity for entrepreneurs of diverse backgrounds

Social media

- When sharing on social media, please remember to use #WelcomingWeek2024 and tag
 - @CitImmCanada on [Twitter](#) (opens in a new tab) or [Instagram](#) (opens in a new tab)
 - @CitCanada on [Facebook](#) (opens in a new tab)
 - Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada on [LinkedIn](#) (opens in a new tab)

- Promote the positive impact that immigrants have had on your community or workplace using [stories](#), [facts](#) and [infographics](#).
- Share inspiring stories of how you, your organization or community are promoting inclusion or working together to make your community a better place for everyone.
- Share photos that show how you or your organization are creating a welcoming place for newcomers.
- Post a short video clip of your community or business leaders talking about the importance of inclusion.
- Share a story from an immigrant or refugee's perspective on how their employer or community welcomed them and made them feel at home. If you're an immigrant or refugee, share your own story.
- Launch a new program, publication or video that features the work your organization does for newcomers.
- Customize the image, sign and messaging templates to share → see *attachment* and *the templates on the [Welcoming Week](#) website*.



Proclamation, Lighting or Flag Request at the Municipal Centre

Community Safety & Organizational Excellence
5 Elizabeth Street
Okotoks AB T1S 1K1
Inquiries: Phone 403.938.8900 or cao@okotoks.ca

Please Note: Please ensure your request has come in no less than 10 business days prior to the requested Start Date.

Name of the Requesting Organization *

CCIS (Calgary Catholic Immigration Society)

Occasion Title *

Welcoming Week 2024

Request Type *

- Proclamation
- Lighting of the Municipal Centre
- Honorary Flag Raising

If requesting a proclamation, the proclamation document must be uploaded below.

Proclamation Start Date *

2024-09-13

Proclamation End Date *

2024-08-22

Please provide comments to support your request below:

Dear mayor Thorn,

I hope you're doing well.

May I please draw your attention to Welcoming Week 2024, a special week to welcome newcomers to Canada. Please see my letter to you and additional information in the attachments to this email.

The 'proclamation' text can be modified by you as you see fit.

Thank you in advance for your contribution to supporting Welcoming Week 2024. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me.

Contact Information

First Name *	Last Name *	Phone *
Magdaleen	van Dorp	[REDACTED]

Email *

mvandorp@ccisab.ca

Address *

Street Address

[REDACTED]

Address Line 2

City	State/Province/Region
HiGh River	Alberta
Postal/Zip Code	Country
██████	Canada

Please upload the proclamation document and any other documents or details supporting your request (i.e.: letter from organization, promotional material, etc.). *

2024_Letter to Mayor_Welcoming Week September 2024_Okotoks.docx	201.74KB
2024 Information Welcoming Week.docx	47.47KB
2024 Proclamation Welcoming Week.docx	14.1KB

The personal information on this form is being collected under the authority of Section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act and will be used to respond to your request. Should you have any questions regarding the collection or use of your personal information, please contact the FOIP Coordinator at foip@okotoks.ca or 403.938.8944.