

# PROCLAMATION

## Journée internationale de la Francophonie (International Francophonie Day)

**March 20, 2025**

WHEREAS: On this day, we celebrate our commitment to not only the French language and the many ways it is expressed across Canada, but also the values of peace, democracy, and respect for human rights that unite all members of the International Organization of La Francophonie; and

WHEREAS: Francophone culture is at the heart of our identity as Canadians and Morinwillians. It is rich, diverse, and dynamic, and it is essential that we preserve its vitality; and

WHEREAS: Morinville was settled by Jean-Baptiste Morin, a French priest and missionary who brought many French settlers from Quebec to our area in the late 1800's; and

WHEREAS: Father Morin was responsible for the construction of the St. Jean Baptiste Church and Rectory, completed in 1912. The province listed these buildings for their significance in the francophone colonization of Alberta and for their architecture, marrying traditional French-Canadian influences with French and British classicisms;

THEREFORE: I, Mayor Simon Boersma, do hereby declare March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, as **Journée internationale de la Francophonie**, in the Town of Morinville.



Mayor Simon Boersma

