

St. Albert Heritage Recognition

January 13, 2026

Whereas, for thousands of years, the land now known as St. Albert has been home to Indigenous peoples, including the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, and others, who gathered in the Sturgeon River Valley to raise their families and build rich, diverse communities; and,

Whereas, in the 1820s, Métis people associated with Fort Edmonton first settled on the land known as the Big Lake Settlement, and in 1861, this Métis community attracted the Oblate Roman Catholic Mission, leading to the settlement being named St. Albert.; and,

Whereas, a village grew along the Sturgeon River using the traditional river lot system of Métis communities, but after joining Canada in 1867, the community faced challenges as their settlement did not align with the square quarter sections mandated by Ottawa for the Northwest; and,

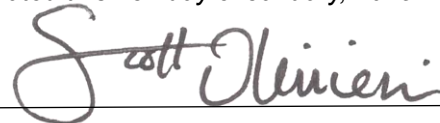
Whereas, on January 27, 1883, two St. Albert representatives traveled to Ottawa demanding a survey that honored the Métis river lots, and although promises were made, they were not kept, leading to a July 1883 map that ignored the river lots, threatening the community's existence, until a new map in August 1884 recognized the river lots and the community's right to exist in its traditional ways; and,

Whereas, St. Albert stamped itself on the map as a unique centre in the Northwest. Attracted by the Roman Catholic Mission, Francophone migrants from Quebec, France, and the United States made a home in St. Albert; and,

Whereas, the new century brought settlers from around the world seeking new opportunities, and St. Albert has continued to welcome and celebrate people of all backgrounds.

Now Therefore, on behalf of Council and the residents of the City of St. Albert, I, Mayor Scott Olivieri, do hereby ask the residents of St. Albert to celebrate the City's official designation as a city in 1977, while recognizing that Indigenous people and culture has always been a part of this community. We honor the contributions and stories of people from all backgrounds to the rich cultural heritage of St. Albert

Dated this 13th day of January, 2025



Scott Olivieri

*Mayor, City of St. Albert
Botanical Arts City*



City of
St. Albert
Cultivate Life