



June 8, 2015

Chairman Wayne Emmerson
Regional Municipality of York
PO Box 147
Newmarket, Ontario, L3Y 6Z1

Dear Chairman and Members of Regional Council,


"L'Association des francophones de la région de York" (L'AFRY) is proud to celebrate in a special way the anniversary of the arrival of Étienne Brûlé and the presence of francophones in York Region. We would appreciate if the Franco-Ontarian flag could be raised at the Administrative Centre and a proclamation be issued for Franco-Ontarian Day, on September 25th. This historical celebration of the flag is a very important event for all Franco-Ontarians in the province and your region. We are very proud that our flag has been officially recognized by Queen's Park on June 21st, 2001.

Today, after four centuries of evolution, Ontario's francophone community includes 582,690 people, or 4.8% of the total population of the province (according to Statistics Canada 2006 census). It is the second largest Francophone community in Canada, after Quebec. This year, the Francophonie is commemorating its 400 years of presence in Ontario.

For the record, the Government of Ontario released a statement on April 26, 2010 that "*The Franco-Ontarian Day Act adopted unanimously by the Legislative Assembly proclaims September 25 of each year as Franco-Ontarian Day. This Day will, every year, officially recognize the contribution of Ontario's Francophone community to the cultural, historical, social, economic and political life of the province.*"

Several of the region's municipalities and cities did agree to raise our flag and issue a proclamation last year and we are hopeful that York Region will also commit to doing the same this year. It would be our pleasure to deliver a flag on simple request. Please feel free to contact Mona Babin by phone at 905 727-4631 ext. 76550, or by email at monababin@afry.ca.

Yours truly,


Alain Beaudoin, President