



# COUNCIL REQUEST FOR DECISION

**MEETING DATE:** February 24, 2025

**SUBMITTED BY:** C. Belke, City Clerk

**PREPARED BY:** C. Belke, City Clerk

**REPORT TITLE:** Bylaw No. 1216-2025 - Amendment to Bylaw No. 1162-2023 - Flags Bylaw

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An amendment to Bylaw No. 1162-2023 is proposed to delegate authority to the Mayor for the half-masting of flags at City facilities.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Bylaw No. 1216-2025 be given first reading.

That Bylaw No. 1216-2025 be given second reading.

That Council unanimously agrees to consider third reading of Bylaw No. 1216-2025 at the same meeting as first and second readings.

That Bylaw No. 1216-2025 be given third reading.

## COUNCIL HISTORY

Bylaw No. 1162-2023, Flags Bylaw, received third reading on November 20, 2023.

## BACKGROUND / RATIONALE

Recent experience has shown that requests from the community to half-mast flags at City facilities can often be submitted with very little time between the date the request is submitted and the date on which flags are requested to be half-masted. This allows very little time for Council to make a decision regarding the request. And if there is no scheduled Council Meeting between the date of the request and the requested date of the half-masting, a Special Council Meeting is required to be able to respond to the request, as was the case of the Special Council Meeting held on February 18, 2025.

The Flags Bylaw specifies that flags at City facilities be flown at half-mast to commemorate the deaths of specifically named people. Half-masting for any other purpose or occasion requires a resolution of Council. Bylaw No. 1216-2025 would amend Bylaw No. 1162-2023 to delegate this responsibility to the Mayor.

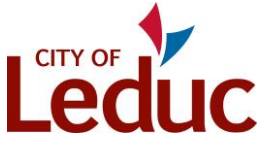
## STRATEGIC / RELEVANT PLANS ALIGNMENT

N/A

## ORGANIZATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

### ADMINISTRATION:

Arrangements for a Special Council Meeting must be carried out as per the requirements of the *Municipal Government Act*, within a compressed timeframe. Being able to respond to requests without holding a Special Council Meeting would be more efficient and less disruptive to administrative operations and the personal schedules of individual Council Members.



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## **RISK ANALYSIS: FINANCIAL / LEGAL:**

There are no financial or legal implications.

## **IMPLEMENTATION / COMMUNICATIONS:**

Passing of Bylaw No. 1216-2025 would avoid operational disruptions necessitated by calling and conducting a Special Council Meeting to address half-masting requests.

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

- Do not pass Bylaw No. 1216-2025 and continue to call Special Council Meetings when required to respond to requests for the half-masting of flags at City facilities.
- Delegate the authority to declare half-masting of flags at City facilities to a committee.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- Bylaw No. 1216-2025
- Bylaw No. 1162-2023, Flags Bylaw