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Inverness County

Statement from the Warden regarding Emancipation Day 2021

For the first time, the Province of Nova Scotia officially observed Emancipation Day on August 1st, marking the anniversary of 1834 when the British Empire outlawed slavery.

Indigenous people and people of African descent were enslaved here in Nova Scotia and in Cape Breton, some died in terrible conditions during Transatlantic voyages, and all were subjected to dehumanizing abuse that has left a legacy of systemic inequality and oppression.

As we work to dismantle these systems of inequality, I would like to take this moment to remember and honour the victims of slavery, as well as celebrate those who fought to abolish slavery and those who work to end racism and discrimination still today.