



Holi Festival of Colours Friday, March 18th, 2022

EVENT BRIEF

OVERVIEW

The Town of Orangeville's EDI – Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee is proud to announce the first Holi Festival of Colours celebration which will take place on Friday, March 18th, 2022 beginning at 9am.

In collaboration with members from our South-Asian community here in Orangeville, the EDI Committee has provided guidance recognizing this celebration locally.

There are a variety of activities planned beginning with the official Proclamation by the Mayor of Orangeville, Sandy Brown on Friday, March 18th at 9am outside of Town Hall.

NOTE, due to current Public Health directives, this event will still adhere to local guidelines and will feature a small gathering at Town Hall that morning. Since this is the first time the event is being held in our community, it isn't expected members of our community will gather in large numbers. Members of both the business and general community are encouraged to recognize the Holi Festival of Colours at their business or home by placing either the supplied coloured poster or displaying some form of 'colour' in their windows.

Other activities include;

A YouTube celebration presented by the South-Asian community on the Town of Orangeville's Website airing that same morning after the official Proclamation. This celebration will feature a variety of ways people recognize Holi. The airing of this YouTube celebration will begin at approximately 9:15am on Friday, March 18th.

Elementary school students will be dropping off 'Friendship rocks' at the gathering circle outside of Orangeville Town Hall beginning on Thursday, March 17th from Noon to 3pm. These Friendship rocks will be on display from March 18th to 31st in the Town's Atrium.

The Town's Public Library on Mill Street will feature a guest reader on Friday, March 18th highlighting the message of Holi. Holi Festival working group member Simran Bhamu will be reciting literature reflecting the Holi Festival of Colours.

Orangeville Holi Festival Agenda:

Thursday, March 17th, 2022 – Elementary students drop off Friendship Rocks at Town Hall

Time	Activity/Location	Staff/Committee Member
Noon – 3pm	Town Hall – Circle Gather Area	Hazel Mason / Joe Andrews

*Note, the Friendship Rocks will be relocated to the Town's Atrium with signage for display from **March 18th to 31st**. The Friendship Rocks will be relocated to a Town Park later in the spring.*

Friday, March 18th, 2022 – Official Proclamation – Mayor Sandy Brown – Orangeville Town Hall

Time	Activity/Location	Staff/Committee Member
8:45am	Set-up for Proclamation – (2) tables, sweets, food, etc.	Andrea Shaw, Sushil Shundil, Simran Bhamu
9:00am	Proclamation of Holi Festival Display of Colour, sharing of sweets and food	Mayor Sandy Brown, Councillor Joe Andrews, EDI Committee members

Note, anyone attending will adhere to Public Health guidelines. The distribution of Holi Colour Powder, sweets and food will be conducted after the official Proclamation.

For more information on the Holi Festival;

Simran Bhamu – email: simran.bhamu@gmail.ca

Sushil Shundil – email: shundilsushil@gmail.com

Joe Andrews – Councillor, Town of Orangeville – email: jandrews@orangeville.ca

Holi description:

Holi, also known as the festival of colours, has a cultural significance among various Hindu traditions of the Indian subcontinent. It is the festive day to end and rid oneself of past errors, to end conflicts by meeting others and a day to forget and forgive. It is symbolic of the victory of good over evil. It is a time to celebrate with every color of the rainbow!

In 2022, Holi will be celebrated on Mar. 18th.

The Town of Orangeville's EDI Committee is supporting the Holi Festival in 2022.

CELEBRATE EACH OTHER
ONENESS, LOVE, AND FRIENDSHIP

HOLI

FESTIVAL OF COLOURS

“ MAY THE FIRE OF HOLI PURIFY YOUR HEARTS,
MAY THE COLOURS COLOUR YOUR LIFE,
MAY THE SWEETS SWEETEN THE JOURNEY OF YOUR LIFE. ”



BONFIRE
(CHOTTI HOLI)
A DAY BEFORE HOLI

GULAL



**SHARING
SWEETS**



**WATER
BALLOONS**

MARCH 18, 2022

**COLOURS
AND SWEETS
WILL BE OFFERED**

Holi, also known as the festival of colours, has a cultural significance among various Hindu traditions of the Indian subcontinent. It is the festive day to end and rid oneself of past errors, to end conflicts by meeting others, and a day to forget and forgive. It is symbolic of the victory of good over evil. It is a time to celebrate with every colour of the rainbow!



Local elementary school-aged children were asked to paint colourful friendship rocks to be placed at Orangeville Town Hall as a way to communicate their understanding of the Holi Celebration. These painted rocks embrace the message of oneness, love and friendship.