

Shenghui Qiao

60 Capulet Lane, London, ON N6H 0B2

March 17, 2025

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City Clerks Dept.

Mayor and Members of City Council

City of St. Thomas

P.O. Box 520

545 Talbot Street

St. Thomas, Ontario

N5P 3V7

Subject: Request for Proclamation and Lighting of the Jumbo Monument for World Press Freedom Day 2025

Dear Mayor and Members of City Council,

I am writing on behalf of Ink-stained Wretches, a grassroots volunteer advocacy group working to build a culture of appreciation for quality journalism.

We sincerely appreciate the City of St. Thomas's past support for issuing a proclamation and lighting digital sign in 2024 as part of our campaign to raise awareness of UN World Press Freedom Day.

We would like to request that the City of St. Thomas issue a proclamation and illuminate the Jumbo monument in blue on the evening of **May 3rd**, or thereabouts, as part of our #SpotlightPressFreedom campaign to recognize WPF 2025 (Blue being the colour of the UN, specifically R0 G158 B219 or Hex: #009edb).

World Press Freedom Day (WPF) is a United Nations-recognized occasion that highlights the importance of press freedom and the challenges faced by journalists worldwide. The theme for 2025 is "Reporting in the Brave New World: The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Press Freedom and the Media".

This year's campaign participants include:

- Municipalities across Canada

- Provincial legislatures in BC and NL, Canada
- Niagara Falls, Canadian and American falls
- The CN Tower
- Jet d'eau in Geneva, Switzerland
- Nearly a dozen public assets in Perth and the Gold Coast, Australia

Please visit spotlightpressfreedom.org for a list of participants; an FAQ; and an interactive map.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me

Thank you for your consideration.



Shenghui Qiao
Member, Ink-stained Wretches