



## Flag Protocol Policy

### **Scope and Intent:**

The purpose of this policy is to establish consistent and respectful procedures for the flying, displaying, and half-masting of flags at municipal properties in the Municipality of Magnetawan.

### **Guiding Principles:**

- The Canadian Flag shall be given precedence.
- Flags shall be treated with dignity and respect.
- The Municipality recognizes flags as important symbols of identity, history, and commemoration.
- Flying, displaying, half-masting, and disposal of flags at Municipal Properties in the Municipality of Magnetawan will be done in accordance with the Canadian Flag Protocol.

### **Flag Protocol**

When multiple flags are flown, they shall be arranged in the following order (from left to right, as viewed by an observer facing the flags):

1. The National Flag of Canada
2. The Flag of the Province of Ontario
3. Other flags as authorized (e.g., visiting nations, special events)

### **Half Masting**

Flags shall be flown at half-mast in accordance with federal and provincial protocol or at the direction of the Mayor or Council, including but not limited to:

- Death of the Sovereign or a member of the Royal Family
- Death of the Prime Minister, Premier of Ontario, or other significant national or provincial figures
- Death of a local Member of Parliament (MP), Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP), or current/former Mayor or Councillor
- Other tragic events or commemorations as deemed appropriate

### **Special Requests**

Requests to fly a commemorative or third-party flag must be submitted to Council on the specified form. The municipality may approve such requests on a case-by-case basis based in alignment with municipal values and public interest. All commemorative and/or third-party flags to be flown must be provided to the Municipality by the requestor.

The Municipality will not fly commemorative or third-party flag of groups and/or organizations whose undertakings or philosophy are contrary to the Municipality of Magnetawan's policies and/or by-laws. Commemorative or third-party flags that represent and/ or include obscene, derogatory, pornographic, discriminatory, sexual, racist, personal attacks, insults, profane language, illegal, threats, and /or potentially libelous statements will not be considered. The Municipality reserves the right to remove the flag at any time.

Commemorative or third-party flags will be flown as well as displayed on the Municipal Digital Signs at the Magnetawan Community Centre and Ahmic Harbour Community Centre. If the flag is flown on the Provincial Flag pole, the Provincial Flag will be removed and stored in the appropriate respectful methods during the time period in which the commemorative or third party flag will be flown.

The CAO/Clerk and/or designate will review all submissions to determine consistency with this Policy, and will:

1. Will place on a Council Agenda for Council consideration  
OR
2. Approve the flag raising if the flag raising was previously approved by Council within five (5) years of the current request and is consistent with the Policy.