

NIAGARA FALLS ILLUMINATION BOARD

- ESTABLISHED 1925 -

SPECIAL ILLUMINATION POLICY

SPECIAL LIGHTING REQUESTS

Since 1925, the Niagara Falls Illumination Board (NFIB) has provided nightly illumination of Niagara Falls for all to enjoy. This illumination includes a range of colours that alternate throughout the evening and shine over all of Niagara Falls. The NFIB has also helped to raise awareness for hundreds of charities and special causes through special illumination requests.

Special illuminations are limited to one fifteen minute block per night, at 10:00 pm unless otherwise specified by the Niagara Falls Illumination Board.

GOVERNANCE

Niagara Falls illuminations are governed by the binational Niagara Falls Illumination Board. The Niagara Parks Commission (NPC) administers all special colour illumination requests within the NFIB policy and current guidelines approved by the NFIB Board.

ELIGIBILITY

In addition to illuminations for annual holidays, internationally recognized signature dates and other significant occasions as determined by the NFIB Board, the NFIB accepts lighting requests from the general public; however, such requests must meet one of the following criteria:

1. Applicants must demonstrate substantial support of the bi-national community surrounding Niagara Falls.
2. Request must support a local or national awareness issue related to community health, civic pride or economic development initiative such as a conference or citywide celebration.
3. Tributes or memorial requests will only be granted for well-documented local, national or international figures, service members or significant international events.
4. Individual event requests must be for gatherings that impact the entire bi-national Niagara region in a positive way.
5. National celebrations will only be granted for countries that are current members of the United Nation.
6. Personal, individual birthday, religious institutions or organizations and political requests will not be granted, unless in the instance of humanitarian concern.
7. Lighting requests made via petitions and/or social media campaigns are not considered.
8. No projection or special effects will be projected on the Falls or the Gorge walls.
9. Audio is not available.
10. Special colour illumination requests from private corporations will not be considered.

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HOW TO APPLY

To be considered, all requests must be:

- received in writing by full completion of the Niagara Falls Illumination Board's Special Illumination Request form available online at:
<https://www.niagaraparks.com/special-illumination-requests/>
- completed and signed by a management representative of the official organization making the request; and,
- received by NPC at least 30 days in advance of the illumination date requested.

A special illumination is at the sole discretion of the NFIB and not subject to appeals or negotiation. All requests will be evaluated based on meeting the above-mentioned guidelines as well as:

- the nature of the cause
- history and background of the organization, cause or event
- how the lighting will be used to benefit the cause or event
- how the Niagara Falls iconic image will be related to the event

Applicants will receive a written response stating whether or not it has been approved. Due to the high volume of applications, all requests may not be accommodated. The NFIB reserves the right to acknowledge two requests during the same time period if two illumination requests are received for the same colour on the same night.

The NFIB wishes to stress that if an application is declined, it is not a reflection of the merits or importance of any requests. Special illumination requests are granted at the discretion of the Niagara Falls Illumination Board.

IF AN APPLICATION IS APPROVED

Those groups that have been approved for a special lighting request are permitted complimentary entrance to the Illumination Tower for up to five (5) guests during the allotted fifteen minute lighting period from 10:00 pm to 10:15 pm*. To book the tour for your guests, please contact Tracie Wallis at twallis@niagaraparks.com.

If you plan to acknowledge a special illumination in communication materials, please provide samples for review and approval no later than 14 days prior to the illumination. Failure to do so may result in NFIB's inability to grant the request.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you plan to appoint commercial photographers, invite media or organize an event within The Niagara Parks Commission's property (Niagara Falls, Ontario) or the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation property (Niagara Falls, New York) additional rules and permits may apply. For information about associated permit applications, policies and guidelines please visit the following websites:

The Niagara Parks Commission

<https://www.niagaraparks.com/media-room/>

New York State Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation:

<http://nysparks.com/inside-our-agency/documents/Permits/FilmPhotoSoundRecordingApplicationAndPermit.pdf>.

The Niagara Parks Commission is an agency of the Province of Ontario and the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation is part of the New York State Government. If you plan to invite government dignitaries to attend an event within either park, Park officials from those organizations must be informed of all invitations and requests to publically speak within their properties with a minimum 14 days' notice. At no time may a government dignitary be invited to speak without a similar invitation being granted to the Chair of the Board for each respective park.

**Any exceptions to the number of guests and/or the time of the tour is subject to Board approval.*