

**A PROCLAMATION TO BE SUBMITTED BY  
LEGISLATOR PATRICK B. BURKE**

**Recognizing Paul Mulcaire and Padraic Walsh, as the July 2015  
Recipients of the Erie County Legislature's  
*Citizen of the Month Award***

**WHEREAS**, Gaelic games have been played in Buffalo and Western New York as far back as 1902, with games being documented as played during Buffalo's Pan American Exposition; and

**WHEREAS**, the GAA, the Gaelic Athletic Association, has formal roots in our community since 1922; and

**WHEREAS**, the Buffalo Fenians GAA is the official GAA affiliate in Western New York; and

**WHEREAS**, the GAA is a volunteer organization, and its goal is to promote and preserve Gaelic Games and Irish Culture in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Paul Mulcaire, the Chairperson of Buffalo Fenians GAA has served as a board member for over 30 years since arriving to Western New York from the Town of Kilrush, County Clare, Ireland; and

**WHEREAS**, Paul Mulcaire is only the second person in North America to receive the "GAA President's Award" for outstanding commitment and service to the GAA; and

**WHEREAS**, Paul Mulcaire oversees the youth program for the Buffalo Fenians, serves as the Youth Officer for the North American County Board, and is a board member of the steering committee for Continental Youth Championship; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Padraic Walsh has served as a board member of Buffalo Fenians GAA since arriving to Western New York over six years ago, originally from the Town of Kiltimagh, County Mayo, Ireland; and

**WHEREAS**, Padraic Walsh oversees the day-to-day business of Buffalo Fenians GAA and is in charge of sponsorship, promotions and presenting Gaelic sports to a wider audience; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2013, Padriac Walsh was the first Western New Yorker to receive the Irish Echo's "40 Under 40 Irish Leaders to Watch Award" since the awards inception 10 years ago; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2014, Padriac Walsh was instrumental in bringing GAA President Liam O'Neill to Buffalo, the only sitting President of the GAA to visit Buffalo since the formation of the GAA in 1884; and

**WHEREAS**, Padriac Walsh has also worked to make possible the visit of Irish Government Minister, Jimmy Deenihan, to visit Buffalo and Western New York. This is only the second Irish Government Minister to visit Buffalo since Eamon de Valera, Ireland's Prime Minister in 1919; and

**WHEREAS**, Padraic Walsh also serves as Chairperson of the Irish Network Buffalo whose mission is to bolster business opportunities and economic development between Buffalo and Ireland; to support the efforts of local Irish organizations and associations; to serve as a conduit between newly arrived Irish immigrants and their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, both Paul Mulcaire and Padraic Walsh have been instrumental in completing the application and bid process to bring the Continental Youth Championship to Buffalo. This North American four-day Gaelic Games event will bring over 18,000 visitors to Western New York in July 2017, creating a tremendous economic impact for businesses in Erie County.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT***

**RESOLVED**, that this Honorable Body pause to commend both Paul Mulcaire and Padraic Walsh for their service to our community and their dedication to the leadership of the Buffalo GAA; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that Paul Mulcaire and Padriac Walsh are to be recognized for their exemplary volunteer service by both being named the Erie County Legislature's Citizen of the Month for July 2015.

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Erie County Legislator  
Patrick B. Burke

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Clerk of the Legislature  
Karen McCarthy