

“WORLD LYMPHEDEMA DAY”

- WHEREAS** *lymphedema is a disease afflicting more than 300 million people worldwide (World Health Organization) with disfigurement, disabilities, discomfort, pain, and distress; and*
- WHEREAS** *approximately 1,000,000 Canadians are living and suffering with lymphedema, whether: primary - inherited, present at birth or manifesting itself later in life, from genetic defects; or, secondary - developed from bodily trauma such as cancer treatment, radiation therapy, major surgery, severe burns or other injuries; and*
- WHEREAS** *lymphedema is an accumulation of high-protein lymphatic fluid that causes swelling in the legs, arms, genitals, trunk, head and/or neck, which impairs mobility, function, can cause pain, significantly impact quality of life, and lead to severe infection or the loss of use of limbs, for the affected person, regardless of age or gender; and*
- WHEREAS** *there is currently no cure for lymphedema; and*
- WHEREAS** *in recognition of the severe physical, emotional, psychosocial, and financial impacts and consequences lymphedema has on patients and families, it is time to support the courageous individuals living with this debilitating disease as well as their caregivers, both professionals and lay persons; and*
- WHEREAS** *2019 marks the fourth annual year, where World Lymphedema Day is observed and recognized throughout Canada and the world to increase public attention, awareness and action related to this serious, chronic and progressive disease.*

NOW, THEREFORE I do hereby proclaim March 6th, 2019 as **“WORLD LYMPHEDEMA DAY”** on the **TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES** of the **ESQUIMALT AND SONGHEES FIRST NATIONS** in the **CITY OF VICTORIA, CAPITAL CITY** of the **PROVINCE** of **BRITISH COLUMBIA**.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 8th day of November Two Thousand and Nineteen.

LISA HELPS
MAYOR
CITY OF VICTORIA
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Sponsored By:
Stephen Kelland
Lymphatic Education and Research
Network (LE&RN): Canada Chapter