

**“MYALGIC ENCEPHALOMYELITIS AWARENESS DAY”**

**WHEREAS** *Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) also known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) is a severe neuro immune disease characterized as overwhelming exhaustion, cognitive problems, pain, post-exertional malaise, immune disorders, flu like symptoms, headaches, cardiac symptoms, postural orthostatic tachycardia, dizziness and balance problems, that leaves many ME patients homebound or bedridden for many years and as many as 75% are unable to work; and*

**WHEREAS** *because of stigma and a lack of attention by Provincial and Federal governments, and the research and medical communities, patients struggle to get access to appropriate medical care desperately needed resulting in loss of hope and thus higher rates of suicide; and*

**WHEREAS** *ME afflicts more than 560,000 Canadians; and*

**WHEREAS** *ME research funding is a fraction of other diseases, Canada spending \$158.58 average per patient with other chronic diseases vs. 12 cents for ME patients, a disease recognized by the World Health Organization as a neurological disease;*

**WHEREAS** *ME awareness should lead to equitable healthcare for patients and increased funding for research by the Federal Government, provincial Government and private entities and result in better medical care with more accurate diagnosis and appropriate treatments.*

**NOW, THEREFORE** *I do hereby proclaim the May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 as “MYALGIC ENCEPHALOMYELITIC AWARENESS DAY” on the HOMELANDS of the SONGHEES AND ESQUIMALT NATIONS in the CITY OF VICTORIA, CAPITAL CITY of the PROVINCE of BRITISH COLUMBIA.*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, *I hereunto set my hand this 23<sup>rd</sup> of May Two Thousand and Nineteen.*

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**LISA HELPS  
MAYOR  
CITY OF VICTORIA  
BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**Sponsored by:  
Gloria Gray  
ME Victoria Association**