Appendix A

'AUTISM AWARENESS DAY'

WHEREAS *Autism Spectrum Disorder is a developmental disability which occurs approximately 1 in every 68 births, the causes of which are not fully understood; and*

WHEREAS *Autism Spectrum Disorder, which is four times more common in boys than girls, may appear during the first three years of life and has been found throughout the world in families of all ethnic and social backgrounds; and*

WHEREAS *Autism Spectrum Disorder is a neuro-biological condition that affects brain development and is characterized by impairments in speech, communication, social interaction, and restrictive, repetitive behaviours; and*

WHEREAS *these characteristics may cause the person affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder to have challenges relating to people, objects and events; and*

WHEREAS *early intervention for young children with Autism Spectrum Disorder may assist them in developing communication and other skills, resulting in more meaningful participation in their communities; and*

WHEREAS *children and families affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder can benefit from community supports and, with this assistance, an increasing number of adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder may be able to live and work independently; and*

WHEREAS *the Canucks Autism Network delivers high calibre programs and services to the children, families and communities dealing with the affects of Autism, and by encouraging friendship, understanding and social responsibility through the creation of mentoring and friendship opportunities, and in support of the designation by the Resolution Adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, has set that April 2nd, shall be designated as World Autism Awareness Day.*

NOW, THEREFORE *I do hereby proclaim the day of April 2nd, 2017 as* ***"AUTISM AWARENESS DAY"*** *on the* ***TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES*** *of the* ***ESQUIMALT AND SONGHEES FIRST NATIONS*** *in the* ***CITY OF VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA.***

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I hereunto set my hand this 23rd day of March, Two Thousand and Seventeen.*

LISA HELPS
MAYOR
CITY OF VICTORIA
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Sponsored by:
Corry Brooks
on behalf of
Autism Speaks Canada