

**“EATING DISORDER AWARENESS WEEK”**

- WHEREAS** *Eating disorders have the highest mortality rate among all psychiatric illnesses and can develop in anyone, regardless of age, ethno-racial background, socioeconomic status, gender or ability; and*
- WHEREAS** *Stigma, secrecy and stereotypes still surround eating disorders, causing many people who are suffering to refrain from seeking help; and*
- WHEREAS** *Open supportive dialogue can help break the shame and silence that affect nearly 1 million Canadians living with diagnosable eating disorders and the millions of others who are struggling with food and weight preoccupation; and*
- WHEREAS** *EDAW seeks to raise awareness of eating disorders, shed light on dangerous and pervasive myths, and promote prevention. It is also a time of year for Canadians to learn about available resources and appropriate services for themselves and/or loved ones; and*
- WHEREAS** *The National Eating Disorder Information Centre (NEDIC) is Canada's only national organization dedicated to helping those with eating disorder, food and weight preoccupation and related issues. NEDIC provides information, education, resources and referrals to individuals with eating disorders, their families, friends and health care professionals; and*
- WHEREAS** *The Provincial Eating Disorders Awareness (PEDAW) campaign is a BC Province-wide effort to raise awareness around prevention and early intervention of eating disorders as well as media literacy, resiliency, building healthy body image and self-esteem; and*
- WHEREAS** *PEDAW is led by Jessie's Legacy Eating Disorders Prevention Program at Family Services of the North Shore in collaboration with Kelty Mental Health Resource Centre, Looking Glass Foundation, St. Paul's Specialized Adult Eating Disorder Program, BC Children's Hospital Eating Disorders Program, Healthy Minds, Healthy Campuses and Project True; and*
- WHEREAS** *PEDAW is launched annually in February with activities and events taking place throughout the year; visit [www.jessieslegacy.com](http://www.jessieslegacy.com) or contact [pedaw@familyservices.bc.ca](mailto:pedaw@familyservices.bc.ca).*

**NOW, THEREFORE** I do hereby proclaim the week of February 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 as “EATING DISORDER AWARENESS WEEK” in the **CITY OF VICTORIA, CAPITAL CITY** of the **PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**, the **TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES** of the **ESQUIMALT AND SONGHEES FIRST NATIONS**.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand this 28<sup>th</sup> day of January, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

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

**Sponsored By:**  
**Kimberly Strain**  
**PEDAW Committee**  
**Provincial Eating Disorder**  
**Awareness Campaign**