

Proclamation

Sexual Assault Awareness Month April 2016

Whereas, Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every person in the community;

Rape, sexual assault, child sexual abuse, incest, and sexual harassment harm our community, and statistics show 1-in-3 women, 1-in-2 Trans people, and 1 in 33 men will be sexually assaulted at some points in their lives. Child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that 1 in 6 boys and 1 in 3 girls will be targeted for a sexual victimization before age 18; and

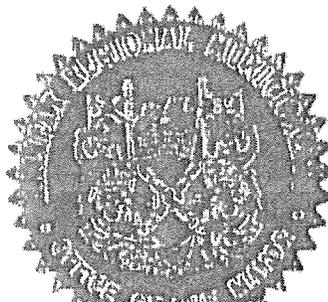
To eradicate sexualized violence/abuse we must eliminate all forms of oppression. Sexualized violence occurs because of individual and societal power inequalities. This means those who are marginalized and oppressed in society by gender, race, ability, status, age, gender identity, or sexual orientation are vulnerable to sexualized violence as a form of domination and control ; and

We must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention. We must teach people that committing sexual assault/abuse is wrong and a criminal offence. We must come together as a community in supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions; and

Prevention is possible when everyone gets involved. The first step is increasing education, awareness, and community involvement. It's time for all of us to take action to create a safer environment for all.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Mayor Mike Savage, on behalf of Halifax Regional Council, do hereby proclaim, April 2016 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" and join advocates and communities across the country in taking action to prevent sexual violence, and that each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future.

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia
this 1st day of April, 2016



Original Signed

Mike Savage
Mayor