

## Item No. 4



### WORLD LYMPHEDEMA DAY 6 March 2019 "Proclamation"

**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;

**THEREFORE**, I, Mike Savage, Mayor of Halifax, do hereby proclaim 6 March 2019, World Lymphedema Day in Halifax.

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia  
This 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2019



Original Signed

Mike Savage  
Mayor