

## **Proclamation**

## Autism Acceptance Day April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

Whereas, the voices of actually autistic people are the most crucial component in cultural and political conversations about autism; and

Many dedicated autistic activists, including those at Autistics United Canada, work tirelessly to advocate for access and self-determination for all autistic people, in healthcare, education, employment, support services, and community networks across the lifespan; and

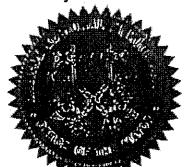
The promotion of autistic culture and pride is critical to changing the cultural narrative about autism from one of tragedy and normalization to one of support and acceptance; and

Autistics United Canada is at the forefront of Autistic-led advocacy in Canada, from local initiatives to national issues; and

April 2<sup>nd</sup>, marks World Autism Acceptance Day, when a global network of Autistic-led organizations, including Autistics United Canada, A4A Ontario, the Autistic Self-Advocacy Network, and the Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network emphasize the necessity of autistic people participating in decisions that affect their lives;

Therefore, I, Mayor Mike Savage, on behalf of Halifax Regional Council do hereby proclaim April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 as Autism Acceptance Day throughout HRM and encourage all our citizens to recognize Autistics United Canada for raising the voices of autistic people and empowering autistic people to take leadership roles in the disability rights movement and our communities.

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia this 29th day of March 2019



Original Signed

Mike Savage Mayor