

## **Proclamation**

## Motion Commemorating the First Anniversary of Russia's Full-scale Invasion of Ukraine

February 24, 2023

Whereas on February 24, 2022, the Russian Federation launched a full-scale military invasion of Ukraine, seeking to destroy the Ukrainian state and subjugate the Ukrainian people to Moscow's rule; and

Whereas thousands of people have been killed or wounded and millions have been displaced from their homes by the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine; and

Whereas on April 27, 2022, Canada's House of Commons declared unanimously that given that "there is clear and ample evidence of systematic and massive war crimes and crimes against humanity being committed against the people of Ukraine by the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, directed by President Vladimir Putin and others within the Russian Parliament; (...) the House recognize that the Russian Federation is committing acts of genocide against the Ukrainian people."<sup>1</sup>; and

Whereas the Ukrainian people and the Ukrainian Armed Forces are courageously defending their country from the Russian Federation's aggression; and

Whereas the people of Canada and people of Halifax stand with Ukraine and support the Ukrainian peoples' right to statehood, independence, freedom and self-determination; and

Whereas since February 24, 2022, the blue and yellow flag of Ukraine has been flown outside the Halifax Regional Municipality building as a symbol of solidarity of the people and of HRM with the Ukrainian people; and

Whereas millions of citizens of Ukraine have been forced from their homes by the Russian Federation's war of aggression and over 100,000 of them have been welcomed in Canada as displaced persons, with over two and a half thousand of whom have settled in Nova Scotia;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Motion moved by Heather McPherson, MP, Edmonton-Strathcona and agreed to unanimously. https://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/44-1/house/sitting-59/hansard

Whereas the people of Canada and the people of HRM have responded with kindness, selflessness and generosity to the need for humanitarian support for those affected by Russia's war of aggression.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Mayor Mike Savage, on behalf of Halifax Regional Council do hereby proclaim that February 24th, 2023, is commemorated as the first anniversary of the Russian Federation's full-scale invasion of Ukraine with a Minute of Silence honouring the memory of the victims of Russia's war against Ukraine; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Halifax Regional Municipality and Regional Council resolutely condemn the aggression, crimes against humanity and acts of genocide committed by the Russian Federation against the Ukrainian people; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Halifax Regional Municipality and Regional Council reaffirm its complete solidarity with Ukraine, the Ukrainian people and the Ukrainian peoples' right to statehood, independence, freedom and self-determination; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Halifax Regional Municipality and Regional Council affirm that they shall stand with Ukraine until all the internationally recognized sovereign territory of Ukraine is liberated from Russian occupation and peace returns to Ukraine.

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia this 24th day of February 2023



Mike Savage Mayor