



Proclamation

90th Anniversary of Helen Creighton Collecting "Farewell to Nova Scotia" August 4, 2023

WHEREAS, on August 4, 1933, Helen Creighton and her musician companion, Doreen Senior, were collecting folk songs in the West Petpeswick area where they visited the home of Mrs. Anne Bayers Greenough. Mrs. Greenough sang an old folk song learned in the area which she called "The Nova Scotia Song". Helen went on to collect several versions of the song from various places in the province, but it gained national prominence when Catherine McKinnon sang the song thirty years later, on the Halifax-based CBC television show, Singalong Jubilee. Now, more popularly known as "Farewell to Nova Scotia", the song has become an iconic musical symbol of Nova Scotia, locally and abroad; and

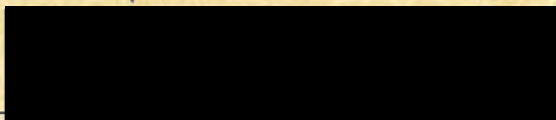
WHEREAS, from 1972 Anne Murray sang a version of the song on a florally decorated float representing the Bluenose in the Pasadena Rose Bowl Parade, where it won the Ambassador's Award, to the many times the entire audience at the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo have lifted their voices as one in a celebration of our folk song heritage, this song has meant so much to so many; and

WHEREAS, the song has been recorded by countless national and international artists and has become, in many ways, the unofficial folk song of Nova Scotia. It has been 90 years since Anne Greenough first shared this song with Helen. During that time, West Petpeswick has become part of the Halifax Regional Municipality. Dr. Creighton always maintained that if it was not for the generosity of the tradition bearers who shared their songs and stories with her, Nova Scotia would not have become known as the repository of one of the richest collections of folklore in the world. Ninety years and still being sung more than ever! A reason to celebrate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Mayor Mike Savage, on behalf of Halifax Regional Council, do hereby acknowledge August 4th, 2023 as the 90th Anniversary of Helen Creighton Collecting "Farewell to Nova Scotia".

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia
this 4th day of August 2023




Mike Savage
Mayor