



***Proclamation***  
**World Press Freedom Day**  
**May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024**

WHEREAS, a healthy, professional news media is essential for the proper functioning of civil society and democracy at the local, regional, federal and international levels; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations has proclaimed "World Press Freedom Day" as an annual observance each May 3<sup>rd</sup>; and


WHEREAS, according to the Local News Research Project, 516 news outlets in 345 communities across Canada have closed or merged from 2008 to December 2023 (compared to the opening of 215 in 152 communities); and

WHEREAS the Halifax Regional Municipality was among 28 municipalities in one territory and nine provinces across Canada that recognized World Press Freedom Day in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the theme for World Press Freedom Day 2024 is "A Press for the Planet: Journalism in the face of the Environmental Crisis".

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Mayor Mike Savage, on behalf of Halifax Regional Council, do hereby proclaim May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 as "World Press Freedom Day" in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia  
this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2024

  
Mike Savage  
Mayor

