



### ***Proclamation***

Transgender Awareness Week & Transgender Awareness Day  
November 13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**WHEREAS;** The week before the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance is a time for education, discussion, and celebration of the challenges, issues, and achievements found within the Two-Spirit, Transgender, and Gender Diverse communities. This November 16th, 2020 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, we are raising the Transgender Flag to celebrate Transgender Awareness week as we appreciate, share, and learn about the lives and experiences of those who identify as Two-Spirit, Transgender, or Non-Binary. Further be it resolved that the Transgender Day of Remembrance, on Friday November 20th, 2020, is set aside to memorialize those killed because of transphobia, hatred, and prejudice with respect to their gender identity. Originally organized by Gwendolyn Smith to honour the murder of Rita Hester on November 28th, 1998, the event is held annually to focus awareness on the continued violence perpetrated against transpersons. According to the Human Rights Campaign, at least 34 transgender or gender non-conforming individuals, the majority of which are Black or from other marginalized communities, have been killed this year alone in North America. While the Transgender Day of Remembrance allows us to mourn and offer our respects for those taken too early from our communities, Transgender Awareness Week draws our attention to the difficulties and challenges experienced by those in the Trans community. It is through awareness that we can continue to move forward to create a safer, more accepting, and positive society for all. We can also use this time to celebrate the progress that is being made in Halifax and Canada to protect and further the rights of everyone, regardless of their gender identity. Furthermore, we are pleased to acknowledge the recent international successes of Trans people in the attainment of various public offices. Diversity brings strength and resilience to our society and enriches the lives of all.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** I Mayor Mike Savage, on behalf of Halifax Regional Council do hereby proclaim the week of November 13th to 19th, 2020, as Transgender Awareness Week, to be concluded on November 20th with Transgender Awareness Day, in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia  
This 13<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020



  
Mike Savage  
Mayor