

# Proclamation

## National Lymphedema Awareness Day March 6, 2020

WHEREAS: Lymphedema is a chronic and debilitating disease, characterized by an accumulation of lymphatic fluid that causes swelling of the arms, legs or other areas of the body, and patients with lymphedema may struggle with pain and swelling and may experience financial and psychological strains due to the difficulties of managing their disease. While there are cases of primary lymphedema that are inherited, most cases are secondary that developed as a result of trauma, infection, surgery, radiation therapy or removal of lymph nodes. The removal of lymph nodes and radiation therapy are typical in cancer treatment, leaving some cancer survivors predisposed to lymphedema. Research about lymphedema has continued to grow, ensuring the best practices are available for patient care. Lymphedema affects many people in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador; and

WHEREAS: the Lymphedema Association of Newfoundland and Labrador is a registered charity, dedicated to ensuring all lymphedema patients have access to information, support and treatment; and

WHEREAS: March 6 of each year is internationally recognized as Lymphedema Awareness Day to raise awareness about this disease and the treatment options available; and

WHEREAS: Raising awareness of lymphedema and its treatment options results in people learning that there is treatment for this incurable disease, and better health and quality of life can result from such awareness.

THEREFORE: I, Mayor Danny Breen, do hereby proclaim March 6, 2020, as **National Lymphedema Awareness Day** in the City of St. John's.

Signed at City Hall, St. John's, NL on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2020.

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Danny Breen, Mayor

ST. JOHN'S