



*Whereas our nation was founded upon a spirit of volunteerism, the talents and energies of Canadian volunteers continue to be one of our greatest natural resources; and*

*Whereas to build a society that is fair and just for all, we must work together in a spirit of love, respect and cooperation; and*

*Whereas Canada can not look to government alone to solve all of its societal problems; and*

*Whereas the active involvement of citizens is needed today more than ever to combat growing human and social problems, to renew our belief that these problems can be solved, and to strengthen our sense of community; and*

*Whereas anyone can be a volunteer and reap the rich rewards that come from doing for others, as well as from improving one's own skills and widening one's horizons; and*

*Whereas volunteering offers all Canadians - young and old - the opportunity to participate in the life of their community and to link their talents and resources to address some of the major issues facing our cities, such as drug and alcohol abuse, education, hunger, youth, homelessness, our elderly; and*

*Whereas it is fitting for all Canadians to join in this celebration of our rich volunteer heritage and to give special recognition to the dedicated volunteers and volunteer programs which contribute immeasurably to communities throughout our City and country.*

*NOW THEREFORE, I Mayor Bill McKay, do hereby proclaim that April 10th to 16th, 2016 shall be known as Volunteer Appreciation Week in the City of Nanaimo.*