

## **PROCLAMATION**

**"WORLD LYMPHEDEMA DAY"**  
**March 6, 2020**

WHEREAS: lymphedema is a disease afflicting more than 300 million people worldwide (World Health Organization) with disfigurement, disabilities, discomfort, pain and distress; and

WHEREAS: approximately 1,000,000 Canadians are living and suffering with lymphedema whether primary-inherited, present at birth or manifesting itself later in life from genetic factors or secondary – developed from bodily trauma, such as cancer treatments, radiation therapy, major surgery, severe burns, or other injuries; and

WHEREAS: lymphedema is an accumulation of high-protein lymphatic fluid that causes swelling in the body that impairs mobility, function, can cause pain, significantly impact the quality of life and lead to severe infections or loss of use of limbs, for the affected person, regardless of age or gender; and

WHEREAS: there is currently no cure for lymphedema; and


WHEREAS: in recognition of the severe physical, emotional, psychosocial, financial impacts and consequences lymphedema has on patients and families, it is time to support the courageous individuals living with this debilitating disease as well as their caregivers, both professionals and lay persons; and

WHEREAS 2020 marks the fifth annual year, where World Lymphedema Day is observed and recognized throughout Canada and the world to increase public attention, awareness and action related to this serious, chronic and progressive disease.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Councillor Don Bonner, Acting Mayor of the City of Nanaimo, do hereby proclaim the 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020 be known as:

**"WORLD LYMPHEDEMA DAY"**

in the City of Nanaimo

  
Councillor Don Bonner  
ACTING MAYOR

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January 2020

