




**PROCLAMATION
HEPATITIS "C" AWARENESS WEEK
July 15-20/2013**

- WHEREAS: hepatitis C is a treatable illness infecting 1500 in Nanaimo, Health Canada says twice that number of people don't know they have the virus and need to be tested; and
- WHEREAS: hepatitis C is a preventable illness that can be effectively beaten through awareness and education; and
- WHEREAS: early detection and awareness can reduce harm to those already infected by hepatitis C; and
- WHEREAS: the financial costs in terms of family budgets, public health care and social services is a cost that is borne by all citizens; and
- WHEREAS: the intangible cost of mental anguish and unfulfilled potential is a cost that is borne by all citizens; and
- WHEREAS: it is in the interests of all citizens to heighten awareness and understanding of the problems and programs connected with hepatitis C and to reduce stigma; and
- WHEREAS: there are treatments to effectively eradicate the virus from the blood of some sufferers. New medication has taken the success rate of eradication from 35% to 85%; and
- WHEREAS: it is in the best interests of all citizens to increase the quality of life of those infected by hepatitis C by supporting research, delivery of better treatments, and a cure for hepatitis C.

NOW THEREFORE I, John Ruttan, Mayor of the City of Nanaimo, do hereby proclaim that the week of July 15-20, 2013, shall be known as "HEPATITIS C AWARENESS WEEK" and that July 20, 2013, shall be known as "HEPATITIS C AWARENESS DAY"

in the City of Nanaimo.


John Ruttan
MAYOR

DATED THIS 8TH DAY OF JULY, 2013.

