

May 2025

WHEREAS: the month of May, has been internationally designated as "GBS and CIDP Awareness Month" to educate the public and to focus attention on Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) and Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP), rare, paralyzing and potentially catastrophic disorders of the peripheral nerves; and

WHEREAS: Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) and its variants are rare conditions which can be characterized by rapid onset of weakness and, often, paralysis of the legs, arms, breathing muscles and face, in some cases leading to complete paralysis and requiring life-sustaining hospital care. Often accompanied with excruciating pain; and

WHEREAS: Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP) and its variants, are rare progressive conditions, which can be characterized by the onset of weakness, numbress and tingling, which can lead to the paralysis of the legs and arms and affect other areas of the body, and it is not uncommon for individuals to endure significant pain; and

WHEREAS: the cause of GBS and CIDP is unknown, and these conditions can develop in any person, regardless of age, gender or ethnic background; and

WHEREAS: GBS and CIDP have a slow and unpredictable recovery, patients and their families face an uncertain future, usually requiring months of hospital care without knowing if or when they will recover, or whether they will face long-term disabilities. Earlier diagnosis, treatment, and access to rehabilitation services can improve the chances of avoiding permanent lifelong residual damage of the nerves; and

WHEREAS: in 2003, GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada a patient organization providing support, education, research, and advocacy, was founded so that no patient or family would go through GBS, CIDP, and variants such as MMN alone.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Leonard Krog, Mayor of the City of Nanaimo, do hereby proclaim May 2025 as:

GBS/CIDP AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Nanaimo, Province of British Columbia.

22/200

Leonard Krog M A Y O R

Dated this 4th day of February 2025

