



Canada  
Province of British Columbia  
A Proclamation

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom,  
Canada and Her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the  
Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

To all to whom these presents shall come – Greeting

WHEREAS sudden unexpected cardiac arrest results in abrupt loss of heart function, and can strike anyone, anywhere, anytime, and

WHEREAS cardiac arrest kills tens of thousands of Canadians each year, including over 2,800 British Columbians – striking without warning and often without symptoms, and

WHEREAS an automated external defibrillator (AED) is a small, portable and safe device that anyone can use to deliver a life-saving electric shock to restart the heart. When used together with CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) in the first few minutes of a cardiac arrest, an AED can double the chance of survival, and

WHEREAS time is critical, for without CPR, a cardiac arrest victim will rarely survive past ten minutes. The quick action of bystanders is essential – to call 911, perform CPR and use an AED – to give someone their best chance of survival, and

WHEREAS Heart & Stroke, in partnership with the Government of British Columbia and BC Emergency Health Services, has donated over 800 AEDs throughout the province to public venues, where there is the greatest chance an AED will be used to save a life, and

WHEREAS the BC Emergency Health Services' (BCEHS) AED Registry is used by 911 dispatchers to direct a caller to the closest registered AED. Dispatchers will coach callers in CPR and AED use until first responders arrive, and

WHEREAS British Columbians are encouraged to get trained in CPR and to download the PulsePoint Respond App to receive alerts from BCEHS of a cardiac arrest occurring within 400 metres of a person's location, and

WHEREAS governments, businesses and organizations are encouraged to expand AED accessibility, maintain and register AEDs in the AED Registry, and promote the learning of CPR amongst citizens and employees to prevent the unnecessary and tragic loss of life;

NOW KNOW YE THAT, We do by these presents proclaim and declare that March 26, 2019 shall be known as

**“Automated External Defibrillator Awareness Day”**

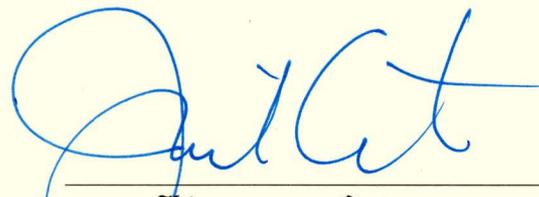
in the Province of British Columbia.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province of British Columbia to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, The Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this twelfth day of March, two thousand nineteen and in the sixty-eighth year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.

  
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Attorney General  
(counter signature for the Great Seal)

  
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Lieutenant Governor