



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 Autism Spectrum Disorder is a neurodevelopmental disorder that occurs in approximately one in every 66 children and youth, the causes of which are not fully understood, and

WHEREAS Autism Spectrum Disorder is four times more common in boys than girls, and has been found throughout the world in families of all ethnic and social backgrounds, and

WHEREAS Autism Spectrum Disorder affects a person's social relationships, communication, interests and behaviours, and

WHEREAS these differences may present in a wide variety of ways and to varying degrees of severity, and individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder also possess unique strengths and abilities, and

WHEREAS early intervention for young children with Autism Spectrum Disorder may help them overcome behavioural challenges and develop communication, social and other skills, resulting in more meaningful participation in their communities, and

WHEREAS children, youth and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families can benefit from community supports and, with this assistance, an increasing number of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder are able to live and work independently, and

WHEREAS the British Columbia government wishes to raise the awareness of both practising professionals and the public by providing information on Autism Spectrum Disorder and by encouraging research activities that will further our understanding of effective interventions across the lifespan for individuals who have Autism Spectrum Disorder;

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

**“Autism Awareness Month”**

and April 2, 2019 shall be known as


**“World Autism 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 twenty-ninth 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