



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 a mother language is vital to every individual's sense of identity and development, and

WHEREAS language is the cornerstone of culture and provides a means of communication among people, and

WHEREAS the General Conference of the United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO), it was unanimously agreed to observe International Mother Language Day on February 21 in each and every year, and

WHEREAS linguistic diversity and multiculturalism enriches the lives of all British Columbians, and respect, dialogue and dignity are integral to Canadian values, and

WHEREAS British Columbia can act as a leader in advocating for languages of First Nations and those brought by generations of immigrants to British Columbia, including Braille and Sign Languages, by respectfully observing International Mother Language Day, and

WHEREAS many of the 6,500 languages in this world will cease to be spoken with the passing of the last generation to speak them;

NOW KNOW YE THAT, We do by these presents proclaim and declare that February 21, 2018 shall be known as

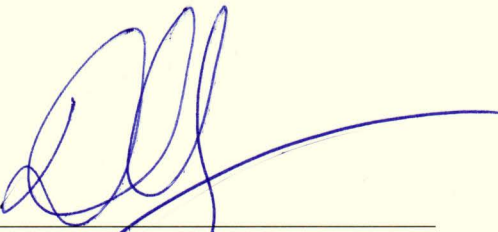
“International Mother Language Day”

in the Province of British Columbia.

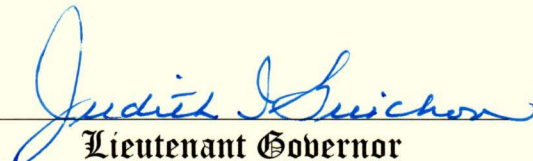
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province of British Columbia to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, The Honourable Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this sixteenth day of February, two thousand eighteen and in the sixty-seventh year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.



Attorney General
(counter signature for the Great Seal)



Lieutenant Governor