



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 mental health starts where we all live, work, learn and play, and

WHEREAS all people have an equal right to the highest attainable standard of mental well-being, which is inseparable from their right to social protection, an adequate standard of living and freedom from discrimination, and

WHEREAS BC is experiencing a devastating opioid crisis—at least 84 000 children and youth in BC experience mental health problems at any given time, and almost 20% of adults in BC experience mental health or substance use problems each year, and

WHEREAS failing to adequately support mental health and well-being has serious and negative consequences on the dignity, inclusion and security of people directly impacted, and

WHEREAS 2019 marks the beginning of the Canadian Mental Health Association's second century in community, serving over 100 000 people throughout BC each year and striving to achieve mental health for all, and

WHEREAS the Canadian Mental Health Association in BC calls for the public to become informed about mental health and to focus collective efforts on the prevention of mental-health and substance-use problems, from poverty reduction to wrap-around health services, and

WHEREAS Government, Indigenous leadership, health authorities, and business, labour and community organizations have a shared opportunity to improve the lives and health of people living in BC by providing the basic supports that lay the foundation for mental wellness and delivering the services that enable recovery from mental illness and problem substance use, and

WHEREAS National Mental Health Week provides a unique opportunity to affirm our shared commitment to building public awareness of the effects of mental-health problems and substance use-related problems and the importance of ensuring access to high-quality, accessible, equitable and recovery-oriented health and social supports, and

WHEREAS the Government of British Columbia stands alongside community groups across the province to recognize the importance of mental health;

NOW KNOW YE THAT, We do by these presents proclaim and declare that May 6 to 12, 2019 shall be known as


“Mental Health Week”

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 first day of May, two thousand nineteen and in the sixty-eighth year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.



Attorney General
(counter signature for the Great Seal)



Lieutenant Governor