



Canada
Province of British Columbia
A Proclamation

CHARLES THE THIRD, by the Grace of God, King of Canada
and His other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth

To all to whom these presents shall come – Greeting

WHEREAS the government of British Columbia is committed to taking action to prevent the sexual exploitation of children and youth, and

WHEREAS it is important to raise public awareness about the sexual exploitation of children and youth, because it is a growing problem in communities throughout British Columbia, and

WHEREAS the sexual exploitation of children and youth, including through threats, coercion, manipulation, control and abuse of power by individuals holding a position of trust or authority over the young person, results in lifelong adverse impacts on victims, their families and communities, and

WHEREAS it is a serious offence under the Criminal Code of Canada to recruit, procure, buy or communicate to invite or buy the sexual services of a person under the age of 18, and

WHEREAS local and provincial prevention, education, social intervention and enforcement strategies that fight child and youth sexual exploitation and provide greater protection to children and youth at risk of exploitation must be developed and implemented in British Columbia's communities;

NOW KNOW YE THAT We do by these presents proclaim and declare that March 4 to 10, 2024, shall be known as

“Stop the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth Awareness 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 nineteenth day of February, two thousand twenty-four and in the second year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.

Attorney General

Lieutenant Governor