

## 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 suicide is a multidimensional public health problem that is rooted in biological, psychological, social and spiritual factors and leads to the death of many British Columbians each year, and

WHEREAS suicide is one of the most common causes of death among youth and young adults between 15 and 34 years of age, and

WHEREAS in Canada, suicide disproportionately affects Indigenous people, with higher rates of suicide among Indigenous populations than among non-Indigenous people, and

WHEREAS those who already experienced poor mental health before the COVID-19 pandemic, including those from the 2SLGBTQ+ community, were affected even more by the pandemic, and

WHEREAS the World Health Organization, the International Association for Suicide Prevention, The LifeLine Canada Foundation, the Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention and similar organizations worldwide have designated September 10, 2023, as World Suicide Prevention Day—a day people around the world come together to remember loved ones who have lost their lives, to demonstrate support and compassion for those whose lives have been touched by suicide and to learn more about suicide prevention, intervention and postvention to reduce the number of people affected by suicide, and

WHEREAS in British Columbia, Suicide Prevention Day is an opportunity to raise awareness of suicide prevention and how to access help for personal reasons or to help others, to support mental wellness and wellbeing;

NOW KNOW YE THAT We do by these presents proclaim and declare that September 10, 2023, shall be known as

## "Suicide Prevention 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 thirtieth day of August, two thousand twenty-three and in the first year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.

Attorney General

Lieutenant Governor