

DISTRICT OF NORTH SAANICH

PROCLAMATION

BC LYMPHEDEMA AWARENESS DAY

MARCH 6th, 2010

WHEREAS Lymphedema is an incurable condition affecting more than 250 million people worldwide (World Health Organization) with disfigurement, disabilities, discomfort and distress, and

WHEREAS it is estimated that 170,680 – 341,360 Canadians are living with Lymphedema (20 – 40% of the number of cancer survivors reported by the Canadian Cancer Society), and

WHEREAS Lymphedema is an accumulation of lymphatic fluid that causes swelling in the arms, legs, or other areas of the body and affects both men, women and children, and

WHEREAS Lymphedema has a severe financial, physical, and psychological impact on patients, and

WHEREAS there is a desperate need to raise the level of knowledge about Lymphedema within the medical community so people no longer go undiagnosed or unmanaged, and more effective treatment processes will be developed, and

WHEREAS the lack of focus on this condition has resulted in inadequate research, education, no drug or effective surgical treatment, a drastic shortage of trained medical professionals, and

WHEREAS the mandate of the BC Lymphedema Association is to bring attention to this distressing disease and to promote healthy and hopeful living with Lymphedema through education, advocacy, and support for all people in British Columbia living with Lymphedema, their families and caregivers, and

WHEREAS a high level of public awareness seems to be the key to successful fund raising which is required to advocate for access to quality health care, to provide services for the special needs of those living with Lymphedema, as well as to fund research and education, and

WHEREAS communities throughout Canada and the US are demonstrating their support for people living with Lymphedema by honoring them, their families and care givers who provide love and encouragement, and

THEREFORE the BC Lymphedema Association is appealing to the residents of North Saanich to join in dedicating this day to be devoted to Lymphedema awareness. Please join us in spreading the word.

NOW THEREFORE, I Alice Finall do hereby proclaim March 6th, 2010 as “**LYMPHEDEMA AWARENESS DAY**” and encourage all citizens to work together to promote and increase awareness so that the health and well being of all those living with Lymphedema is improved.

IN WITNESS, I set my hand this 15th day of February 2010

ALICE FINALL
MAYOR