

District of North Saanich



PROCLAMATION

All Buffleheads Day

OCTOBER 15TH, 2011

WHEREAS “The Bufflehead is known as the Spirit Duck in appreciation of its vivacity, its boundless energy, its dashing mien in all that it undertakes.” (Dr. Cy Hampson, Sidney, B.C. 1995)

WHEREAS the Bufflehead has set a world record for punctuality in its migrations, arriving in Shoal Harbour Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Vancouver Island, on the 298th day of the solar cycle, as documented in the Canadian Field Naturalist.

WHEREAS the 298th day of the solar cycle equates to October 15th (except in Leap Years), and is a phenological constant by which to gauge the arrival of subsequent migrants and the timing of freeze-up on the northern Great Plains.

BE IT RESOLVED that the District of North Saanich recognizes that “All Buffleheads Day” is an important phenological phenomenon by which to gauge climatic change across the nation,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District of North Saanich recognizes that this is the 80th anniversary of the Shoal Harbour Migratory Bird Sanctuary,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District of North Saanich encourage the Government of Canada to implement and support the monitoring of key phenological indicators through citizen-based monitoring programs, and integration with international Phenology Networks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District of North Saanich commend the Town of Sidney for their efforts to protect essential Bufflehead habitat in Shoal Harbour Migratory Bird Sanctuary, one of the oldest national marine bird sanctuaries on the west coast of Canada, established by Parliament in 1931.

NOW THEREFORE I, Alice finall, Mayor of the District of North Saanich do hereby proclaim **October 15th, 2011** as “**All Buffheads Day**” in the District of North Saanich.

IN WITNESS, I set my hand this 6th day of October 2011.



Alice Finall
MAYOR