

**Town of Cochrane  
PROCLAMATION**

**World AIDS Day  
December 1, 2024**

**WHEREAS:** every year on December 1<sup>st</sup>, the world unites to commemorate World AIDS day. This annual event which also launches the start of Indigenous AIDS awareness week in Canada serves as a reminder of the global struggle to end HIV-related stigma, an opportunity to mourn those we have lost, and a rallying cry to continue working toward a day when HIV is no longer a public health threat; and

**WHEREAS:** approximately 62,000 Canadians live with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), which can lead to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS); and

**WHEREAS:** the global response to AIDS has slowed or stalled considerably over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, putting many lives at risk. More work needs to be done to educate the public and combat the stigma and discrimination which has unfairly faced those living with HIV/AIDS for decades; and

**WHEREAS:** World AIDS Day is an opportunity to provide support and commit to providing those facing disproportionate barriers with equal access to services and treatment. With early diagnosis and proper treatment, people living with the virus can lead healthy lives; and

**WHEREAS:** everyone can join the awareness campaign by wearing a red ribbon on World AIDS Day to show their solidarity with people whose lives are affected by HIV/AIDS. The Town of Cochrane supports organizations and individuals committed to raising awareness about HIV/AIDS that affects all Canadians and mourns those who have died as a result of the disease; and

**NOW THEREFORE:**

I, Peter Politis, Mayor of the Town of Cochrane, do hereby proclaim December 1<sup>st</sup>, as "World AIDS Day" in the Town of Cochrane Ontario.

I encourage everyone to grab one of the red scarves downtown and share the HIV/AIDS information attached.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Peter Politis, Mayor, Town of Cochrane

Date: November 12, 2024