



## PROCLAMATION

### World Autism Awareness Day

April 2, 2024

**Whereas** Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) affects more than 135,000 Ontarians. Autism Spectrum Disorder is a neurodevelopmental disorder affecting 1 in every 66 Canadian children, as well as their friends, family and community, and approximately 1-2% of the Canadian population is on the spectrum; and

**Whereas** ASD is a spectrum disorder, which means it not only manifests itself differently in every individual in whom it appears, but its characteristics will change over the life of each individual as well. A child on the autism spectrum will become an adult on the autism spectrum; and

**Whereas** Autism Ontario is the leading source of information and referral on autism and one of the largest collective voices representing the autism community. Since 1973, Autism Ontario has been providing support, information and opportunities for thousands of families across the province; and

**Whereas** Autism Ontario is dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals with whom they interact. The association and its chapters share common goals of providing information and education, supporting research, and advocating for programs and services for the autism community.

**Therefore**, I, Mayor Bryan Paterson, on behalf of Kingston City Council, hereby proclaim April 2, 2024 to be "World Autism Awareness Day" in the City of Kingston.

**Dated** at Kingston this 20th day of March, 2024.

Bryan Paterson  
Mayor