



PROCLAMATION

National Deafblind Awareness Month

June 2024

Whereas Deafblindness is a unique disability that incorporates the loss of both sight and hearing. Individuals who are deafblind can live full, meaningful lives as independently as possible with the right supports in place, such as intervenor services; and

Whereas the CNIB Deafblind Community Services (DBCS) provides literacy and intervenor services to people who are deafblind in Kingston, the province of Ontario recognizes services for Deafblind citizens as essential services, and more people need to be aware of them; and

Whereas on December 21, 2000, the Ontario Legislature officially proclaimed the month of June in each year as Deafblind Awareness Month to recognize that “Deafblindness is a unique disability that incorporates the sensory loss of both sight and hearing” and was created to help “recognize that increased public awareness of this disability is crucial to increase opportunities for those who live with it”; and

Whereas the Canadian Senate passed a motion on May 28, 2015, also recognizing June as Deafblind Awareness Month across Canada. This motion helps “to promote public awareness of deafblind issues and to recognize the contribution of Canadians who are deafblind”; and

Whereas June is also the birth month of Helen Keller, an international recognized person who was Deafblind;

Therefore, I, Mayor Bryan Paterson, on behalf of Kingston City Council, hereby proclaim the month of June 2024 to be “National Deafblind Awareness Month” in the City of Kingston.

Dated at Kingston this 7th day of February, 2024

Bryan Paterson
Mayor