



PROCLAMATION

World Polio Day

October 24, 2024

Whereas no place is safe until Polio has been eradicated everywhere and we must remain vigilant as Polio is still endemic in two countries; and

Whereas many senior citizens in Kingston can remember iron lungs and the toll (paralysis and death) of the Poliomyelitis (Polio) epidemic from 1946 through 1953. There were almost 9,000 Polio cases and 494 Polio related deaths in Canada in 1953; and

Whereas there are approximately 31,000 Polio survivors in Canada and thousands of Canadians are living with the virus' late effects in the form of post-polio syndrome. Polio is a very real part of their lives; and

Whereas if children are not vaccinated against Polio, the consequences of a pandemic would be devastating; and

Whereas Rotary and its partners immunize 400 million children each year. There are 20 million people able to walk today that otherwise would have been paralyzed; and

Whereas World Polio Day is a time for all who want a world free from Polio to come together, recognize the progress in the fight to end Polio, and talk about the actions all citizens need to take to end Polio for good.

Therefore, I, Mayor Bryan Paterson, on behalf of Kingston City Council, hereby proclaim October 24, 2024 to be "World Polio Day" in the City of Kingston.

Dated at Kingston this 16th day of October, 2024.

Bryan Paterson
Mayor