

Proclamation

United Nations (UN) International Day of Play June 11, 2025

WHEREAS, Halifax Regional Municipality joins municipalities around the world in celebrating the first United Nations (UN) International Day of Play to be celebrated annually on June 11th; and

WHEREAS, the insights and perspectives of children from around the world in the Global South and North informed and inspired the decision to proceed with the UN's designation; and

WHEREAS, play is a fundamental right, and Canada ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1991, which recognizes the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and age-appropriate recreational activities and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts; and

WHEREAS, research clearly demonstrates the importance of play in cultivating health, happiness and resilience while contributing to children's social, physical and cognitive development and well-being. Play is a vehicle that supports inclusion and mental health wellness for the youngest members of our society; and

WHEREAS Halifax Regional Municipality's recreation facilities, programs and personnel offer opportunities of discovery, exploration and friendship for children and leadership development for staff. Local governments have a significant responsibility to plan and provide equitable, safe, accessible and healthy public environments for children's play and recreation free from financial barriers in their own communities.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Mayor Andy Fillmore, on behalf of Halifax Regional Council, do hereby proclaim June 11, 2025 as "United Nations (UN) International Day of Play" in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia This 11th day of June 2025

> Andy Fillmore Mayor