



## Proclamation: World Autism Awareness Day

**Whereas**, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) affects approximately 2% of Albertans on the autism spectrum and ASD is now recognized as the most common neurological disorder affecting 1 in every 66 children in Canada, as well as their friends, family and community; 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 with ASD will become an adult with ASD; and

**Whereas**, Autism Speaks Canada and its chapters share common goals of providing information and education, supporting research, advocating for programs and services for the autism community and 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; and

**Whereas**, this year Autism Speaks Canada's campaign initiative is to "Celebrate Differences" to show support, understanding and acceptance for people with autism; and

**Now Therefore**, I, Mayor Elisa Brosseau, and on behalf of the Town of Bonnyville Council, do hereby proclaim April 2, 2025, as "World Autism Awareness Day" in the Town of Bonnyville and urge all citizens of our community to "Light it up Blue" to create a more inclusive world for people with ASD.

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Mayor Elisa Brosseau