



PROCLAMATION

GBS and CIDP Awareness Month

WHEREAS *Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS) and Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP), are rare, paralyzing and potentially catastrophic disorders of the peripheral nerves; and*

WHEREAS *GBS and CIDP, and their variants such as Multifocal Motor Neuropathy (MMN), can be characterized by rapid onset of weakness and, often, paralysis of the legs, arms, breathing muscles and face, in some cases leading to complete paralysis and requiring life-sustaining hospital care; and*

WHEREAS *the cause of GBS, CIDP, and MMN is unknown, and these conditions can develop in any person, regardless of age, gender or ethnic background; and*

WHEREAS *GBS, CIDP, and MMN have a slow and unpredictable recovery, patients and their families face an uncertain future, usually requiring months of hospital care without knowing if or when they will recover, or whether they will face long-term disabilities. Earlier diagnosis, treatment, and access to rehabilitation services can improve the chances of avoiding permanent lifelong residual damage of the nerves; and*

WHEREAS *in 2003, GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada, a patient organization providing support, education, research, and advocacy, was founded so that no patient or family would go through GBS, CIDP, MMN or their variants alone;*

NOW THEREFORE *I, Bob Wells, Mayor of the City of Courtenay, do hereby proclaim May, 2023, as **GBS AND CIDP AWARENESS MONTH** in the City of Courtenay.*

Mayor Bob Wells