

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF COURTENAY



PROCLAMATION

“Stocky” Edwards Day: June 5, 2021

- WHEREAS* Wing Commander (W/C) James Francis “Stocky” Edwards (retired), born on June 5, 1921 in Saskatchewan, is recognized as one of Canada’s greatest fighter pilots and is the last living Canadian World War II ace;
- WHEREAS* W/C Edwards displayed enormous bravery, skill and leadership during World War II, flying in over 370 combat missions;
- WHEREAS* W/C Edwards lent his vast expertise to generations of pilots in the Royal Canadian Air Force until his retirement in 1972;
- WHEREAS* Since his retirement, W/C Edwards has written several books about his wartime experiences and became an accomplished artist whose paintings illustrate Canadian aviation history;
- WHEREAS* On May 13, 2004 W/C Edwards was awarded the Order of Canada for his extraordinary contributions to Canada both in wartime and peace; and
- WHEREAS* In 2015, W/C Edwards was honoured with the “Freedom of the City” certificate by the City of Courtenay for his extensive service to his local community;
- NOW THEREFORE* I, Bob Wells, Mayor of the City of Courtenay, do hereby proclaim June 5th, 2021—W/C Edward’s 100th birthday—as **“Stocky Edwards Day”**.

Bob Wells

Mayor Bob Wells