## **Proclamation**

## Child Abuse Prevention Month April, 2020

**Whereas:** Children are vital to our province's future success, prosperity and quality of life as well as being our most vulnerable assets;

**Whereas:** Between 2006 and 2012, 10,897 violent crimes were reported against children under the age of 18 in Newfoundland and Labrador (most recent statistics available);

**Whereas:** Child abuse continues to be one of our nation's most serious health problems. Studies have shown child abuse and neglect causes psychological, emotional, and physical harm which can create lifelong problems for victims of abuse;

Whereas: Every child deserves to grow up in a healthy, safe and nurturing environment;

**Whereas:** Child abuse prevention is a community responsibility and finding solutions depends on the involvement of all people;

**Whereas:** this month, we emphasize the importance of understanding the devastating problem of child abuse and neglect; and commit to learn more about the behavioural and physical signs of possible abuse.

Therefore: I, Danny Breen, Mayor of the City of St. John's, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2020 to be Child Abuse Prevention Month in St. John's; and urge all citizens to work together to help reduce child abuse and neglect significantly in years to come.

Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2020.



Danny Breen, Mayor

## ST. J@HN'S