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**PROCLAMATION**

**WORLD LYMPHEDEMA DAY**

- Whereas lymphedema is a disease afflicting more than 300 million people worldwide (World Health Organization) with disfigurement, disabilities, discomfort, pain and distress; and*
- Whereas approximately 1,000,000 Canadians are living and suffering with lymphedema, whether: primary – inherited, present at birth or manifesting itself later in life, from genetic factors; or secondary – developed from bodily trauma, such as cancer treatments, radiation therapy, major surgery, severe burns, or other injuries; and*
- Whereas lymphedema is an accumulation of high-protein lymphatic fluid that causes swelling in the body that impairs mobility, function, can cause pain, significantly impact the quality of life and lead to severe infections or loss of use of limbs, for the affected person, regardless of age or gender; and*
- Whereas there is currently no cure for lymphedema; and*
- Whereas in recognition of the severe physical, emotional, psychosocial, and financial impacts and consequences lymphedema has on patients and families, it is time to support the courageous individuals living with this debilitating disease as well as their caregivers, both professionals and lay persons; and*
- Whereas 2020 marks the fifth annual year, where World Lymphedema Day is observed and recognized throughout Canada and the world to increase public attention, awareness, and action related to this serious, chronic and progressive disease.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Michelle Staples of the City of Duncan, British Columbia,*

*do hereby declare Friday, March 6, 2020 shall be known as  
“World Lymphedema Day”*

*Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day  
February, 2020*

*Michelle Staples, Mayor*