



PROCLAMATION

British Home Children Day

- WHEREAS** *British Home Children Day is intended to promote awareness of child emigration across Canada who were used as indentured farm workers and domestics, a little-known aspect of joint Canadian and British history; and*
- WHEREAS** *from 1869 to 1948 over 100,000 children were sent from Britain to Canada with the idea of the majority becoming indentured labourers and domestics; and*
- WHEREAS** *children were sent to Canada from England by over 50 organizations including Fairbridge Farms, Fegan Homes, the Salvation Army and churches of all denominations. Often called Canada's Nation Builders, their vast contributions to our country should never be forgotten. Descendants of these children number in the millions in Canada alone; and*
- WHEREAS** *the mandate of the British Home Children Advocacy and Research Association is to promote the story of the British Home Children, and to advocate for those who no longer have a voice to provide free research help to those seeking their family histories often providing closure to a painful past; and*
- WHEREAS** *September 28th is commemorated nationally as British Home Children Day in Canada by a unanimous Private members motion M-133 in the House of Commons, 7 Feb 2018;*
- NOW, THEREFORE I,** *Mayor Michelle Staples of the City of Duncan, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2024, as "British Home Children Day" in the City of Duncan.*

Dated this 19th day of August, 2024.

Michelle Staples, Mayor