



April 27, 2016

MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
200 CRAIG ST  
DUNCAN BC V9L 1W3

Dear Mayor and Council:

RE: Access Awareness Day – June 4, 2016-Building Accessibility/Creating Community

June 4, 2016 marks SPARC BC's 19th annual Access Awareness Day! Access Awareness Day gives each of us an opportunity to look at our community and to think about what we can do to make our communities more accessible and inclusive for everyone!

The theme for this year's Access Awareness Day is "Building Accessibility/Creating Community". As part of this year's planning, our goal is to draw attention to the needs of individuals with health and activity limitations living in our communities and to highlight the different ways that we can all work together to ensure that our communities are as accessible and inclusive as possible.

Each year, as part of our annual Access Awareness Day campaign, we ask local governments to show their support by passing a proclamation that recognizes the role that we all play in ensuring the rights of everyone to bring their talents, experience and abilities to engage in all aspects of community life. We hope that we can count on your support by adopting a proclamation or sending a letter of support that confirms your on-going commitment to building an accessible and inclusive community.

We have also included a number of different Access Awareness Day posters and materials that we have developed to help build increased public awareness and support around the importance of working to ensure that our communities are accessible and that people with disabilities are included. To request additional posters or materials or to suggest possible ways to partner please do not hesitate to reach out by calling (604) 718-7736 or by sending an email to [mycommunity@sparc.bc.ca](mailto:mycommunity@sparc.bc.ca).

We know that true accessibility and inclusion is something that is achieved by working together and that by building accessibility we are creating better communities. As part of this year's Access Awareness Day activities, our goal is to demonstrate the many different ways that communities have been successful in building accessibility. Please join us in celebrating Access Awareness Day and in helping to ensure that all communities are accessible and that everyone is included!

Thank you for your support. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lorraine Copas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lorraine Copas  
Executive Director, SPARC BC

# Access Awareness Day Proclamation

**WHEREAS** Accessibility and inclusion is essential for ensuring that all community members have equity in opportunities, and the ability to fully participate in community life; and,

**WHEREAS** Accessibility affects all aspects of community life—physical, social and economic including employment, transportation, recreation, housing, and other opportunities; and,

**WHEREAS** We all have a role to play in ensuring that our communities are as accessible and inclusive as possible.

## THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

The citizens of this community recognize the rights of all individuals with disabilities and the importance of ensuring that they have equal access to the opportunities that are important to them and that give their lives meaning.

## IN WITNESS WHEREOF:

I hereto set my hand to this signed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Mayor/Chairperson)

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

Building Accessibility  
Creating Community

celebrating  
**50**  
years

 **sparc bc**  
people. planning. positive change

