



# Proclamation

WHEREAS

Celiac Disease (CD) is an autoimmune disorder whereby the intestinal lining is damaged by gluten, a protein found in wheat, rye, and barley. CD occurs when gluten triggers an immune system reaction that damages the small intestine, thus impairing absorption of nutrients required to stay healthy;

AND WHEREAS

it is estimated that about 350,000 people in Canada have CD, but the majority of these people are not diagnosed. British Columbians need to be better informed that Celiac Disease is not a rare disease;

AND WHEREAS

research from Canada has shown that the average time from symptom onset to diagnosis of CD in adults averages close to 12 years;

AND WHEREAS

all British Columbians need to be aware that early detection is critical. Untreated, CD can be dangerous, even deadly, and can lead to malnutrition, causing anemia, osteoporosis, and cancer of the gut;

AND WHEREAS

the vision of the Canadian Celiac Association is:  
Find. Treat. Cure.

NOW, THEREFORE

*the Council of the City of Port Moody does hereby declare the month of May, 2022 as*

**“CELIAC AWARENESS MONTH”**

*Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022*