



Canada
Province of British Columbia
A Proclamation

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom,
Canada and Her other Realms and Territories, Queen, Head of the
Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

To all to whom these presents shall come – Greeting

WHEREAS Autism Spectrum Disorders occur in approximately 1 in every 110 births, the causes of which are not fully understood, and

WHEREAS Autism Spectrum Disorders, which are four times more common in boys than girls, may appear during the first three years of life and have been found throughout the world in families of all ethnic and social backgrounds, and

WHEREAS Autism Spectrum Disorders affect brain development and are characterized by impairments in communication, social interaction, and restrictive repetitive behaviours, and

WHEREAS these characteristics may cause the individual with an Autism Spectrum Disorder to have challenges lifelong relating to people, objects and events, and

WHEREAS early intervention for young children with Autism Spectrum Disorders may assist them in developing communication and other skills, resulting in more meaningful participation in their communities, and

WHEREAS children, youth and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their families can benefit from community supports and, with this assistance, an increasing number of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders may be able to live independently, and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government wishes to raise the awareness of the public and practicing professionals by providing information on Autism Spectrum Disorders and encouraging research activities which will further our understanding of effective interventions across the lifespan for Autism Spectrum Disorders, and

WHEREAS our Lieutenant Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, has been pleased to enact Order in Council 903 on October 11, 2002;

NOW KNOW YE THAT We do by these presents proclaim and declare that April, 2011 shall be known as

“Autism Awareness Month”

and April 2, 2011 shall be known as

“World Autism Awareness Day”

in the Province of British Columbia.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, The Honourable Steven L. Point, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this fourteenth day of March, two thousand eleven and in the sixtieth year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND.

Attorney General
(counter signature for the Great Seal)

Lieutenant Governor