



The City of Saint John

## ***PROCLAMATION***

***WHEREAS:*** India is a diverse, vibrant land, rich in heritage, tradition and a variety of topographies, cultures and languages. While each region in the country has its own distinct individuality, they are at the same time a proud part of their united identity – the nation of India; and

***WHEREAS:*** India is home to 1.3 billion people and holds a significant position in the world's economic, political, social and cultural landscape. Over the years, many people from India have immigrated to Canada to live work and contribute to the development of Canada as a strong, diverse nation. Their love and gratitude for their new home holds as strong as it does for their country of origin; and

***WHEREAS:*** In Saint John too, we now have a sizeable and rapidly growing in Indian community, who with their energy, passion and hard work, actively contribute not only to our economy but to the richness of our social and cultural spectrum. While connected to their roots, they have embraced their new home, sharing their traditions and culture freely with our community but also adapting to their present surroundings; and

***WHEREAS:*** August 15<sup>th</sup> is India Independence Day. In 2019, this day marks the completion of 72 years of India's existence as a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic. It is a time of joy and celebration of India's eventful journey and progress to the present day. It is also a time to recognize the pain and hardship endured to reach this point, and show gratitude to the many selfless souls whose courage and sacrifice earned India its freedom and identity as an independent nation. To them, today, we bow as the Indian National Flag is raised in honour of this momentous milestone of the remarkable nation.

**NOW THEREFORE:** I, **Mayor Don Darling**, of **Saint John** do hereby proclaim **August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019**, as **India Independence Day**, in the City of Saint John.

**In witness whereof I have set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Mayor of the City of Saint John.**

