



# PROCLAMATION

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

- Whereas** the month of May, has been internationally designated as "GBS and CIDP Awareness Month" to educate the public and to focus attention on Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) and Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP); and
- Whereas** Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) and Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP), are rare conditions which are paralyzing and potentially catastrophic inflammatory disorders of the peripheral nerves, that can be characterized by rapid onset of weakness and, often, paralysis of the legs, arms, breathing muscles and face, in some cases leading to complete paralysis and requiring life-sustaining hospital care; and
- Whereas** the cause of GBS and CIDP is unknown, these conditions can develop in any person, regardless of age, gender or ethnic background; and
- Whereas** GBS and CIDP have a slow and unpredictable recovery, patients and their families face an uncertain future, usually requiring months of hospital care without knowing if or when they will recover, or whether they will face long-term disabilities. Earlier diagnosis, treatment, and access to rehabilitation services can improve the chances of avoiding permanent lifelong residual damage of the nerves; and
- Whereas** in 2003, GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada, a patient organization providing support, education, research, and advocacy, was founded so that no patient or family would go through GBS or CIDP alone.
- Therefore** I, Marianne Meed Ward, Mayor of the City of Burlington, do hereby proclaim **May, 2026** as

### ***“GBS & CIDP Awareness Month”***

in the City of Burlington and do commend its thoughtful observance to all citizens of our municipality.

**Mayor Marianne Meed Ward**

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026

