



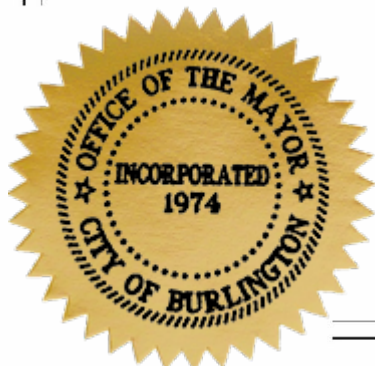
PROCLAMATION

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

- Whereas** nationwide community support has been critical throughout Arthritis Society Canada's 78-year history, enabling the organization to fulfill its mission to fight the fire of arthritis with research, advocacy, innovation, information and support; and
- Whereas** arthritis is a serious disease that causes debilitating pain, restricts mobility and diminishes quality of life. More than six million people in Canada – 1 in 5 – live with the brutal realities of arthritis every day and there is no cure. It is the leading cause of disability in Canada and costs our economy \$45.9 billion in healthcare expenses and lost productivity. Without a greater spotlight on this growing issue, the number of people in Canada with arthritis will rise to nine million by 2045; and
- Whereas** during Arthritis Awareness Month this September, we will raise awareness, mobilize and engage communities to understand the devastating impact of arthritis, and stand with us to fight for an arthritis-free future. We recognize the work underway and have developed a nationwide action plan, Arthritis Action Now: The Plan to End Arthritis, Canada's first actionable, coordinated strategy to prevent, better treat, and ultimately cure arthritis through advocacy efforts and research investments.
- Whereas** Arthritis Society Canada is Canada's national charity dedicated to extinguishing arthritis for good.
- Therefore** I, Marianne Meed Ward, Mayor of the City of Burlington, do hereby proclaim **September 2026** as

"Arthritis 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 29th day of July, 2026

