



PROCLAMATION

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

- Whereas** Poliomyelitis, or more commonly known as poliovirus, is a highly infectious disease that most commonly affects children under the age of 5. The virus spreads person to person, typically through contaminated water and can attack the nervous system and in some instances lead to paralysis; and
- Whereas** World Polio Day is held on October 24 in celebration of the birth of Dr. Jonas Salk, the researcher who developed the first polio vaccine in 1955; and
- Whereas** the Rotary motto, “Service Above Self” inspires members to provide humanitarian service, follow high ethical standards, and promote goodwill and peace in the world; and
- Whereas** Rotary International launched PolioPlus in 1985 and spearheaded the Global Polio Eradication Initiative in 1988 with the World Health Organization and UNICEF to immunize the children of the world against polio; and
- Whereas** polio cases have dropped by 99.9 percent since 1988 and the world stands on the threshold of eradicating the disease; and
- Whereas** to date, Rotary has contributed more than US\$2.9 billion and countless volunteer hours to protecting more than 3 billion children in 122 countries. These efforts are providing much-needed operational support, medical staff, laboratory equipment, and educational materials for health workers and parents.
- Therefore** I, Marianne Meed Ward, Mayor of the City of Burlington do hereby proclaim **October 24, 2026** as

“World Polio Day”

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 September 2026

