

PROCLAMATION

Disability Employment Awareness Month D.E.A.M.

WHEREAS persons with disabilities are valued members of Alberta and deserve the opportunity to live and work in their community where they are respected and rewarded for their efforts, skills, and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS persons with disabilities are contributing members of the workforce in Alberta and are a critical part of our effort to build a strong economy; and

WHEREAS there is a rich network of non-profit agencies, practitioners, policy makers, consumer organizations, consumers and their families committed to promoting and strengthening employment opportunities for persons with disabilities in the Province of Alberta; and

WHEREAS Alberta's employers, both in public and private sector, can benefit further from the positive outcomes empowering disabled persons to have equal opportunity to social inclusion, and sustained, meaningful employment; and

WHEREAS October is Disability Employment Awareness Month that has origins in the U.S. starting as far back as 1945. It was introduced in Canada in 2000 with Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Ontario proclaiming and celebrating over a decade ago; and

WHEREAS proclaiming October as Disability Employment Awareness Month will help raise awareness about disability employment issues and will serve to celebrate the contributions of persons with disabilities.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN THAT Members of the Okotoks Town Council do hereby proclaim October 2023 as Disability Employment Awareness Month (D.E.A.M) in the Town of Okotoks.

Dated this 25th day of September 2023

ORIGINAL SIGNED





Mailing address: PO Box 5146
High River AB, T1V 1M3
Office Location: 123 4th Avenue SW

Telephone: 403-603-3232
Toll Free: 1-866-507-6277

Town of Okotoks

August 28, 2023

Dear Honorable Mayor and Councilors,

October is Disability Employment Awareness Month (D.E.A.M.). D.E.A.M. has origins in the USA starting as far back as 1945. It was introduced in Canada many years later and by 2000, had gained significant momentum and continues to engage, educate, and raise awareness about inclusive employment today. In fact, many provinces began proclaiming and celebrating D.E.A.M. over a decade ago, with Manitoba proclaiming D.E.A.M. in 2010, Saskatchewan in 2011 and Alberta, British Columbia, and Ontario shortly after.

Despite the considerable efforts that have been made to diversify the Canadian labor force in recent years, inclusive employment opportunities have substantially worsened. Currently, Canadians experiencing a disability are unemployed, underemployed, or underutilized. Inclusion Foothills employment programs since 2014 have seen 205 adults gain employment with an additional 86 youth in the past 4 years totaling 291 jobs secured by individuals with a pan disability. Overall, Inclusion Foothills serves 1,224 families or 3,751 individuals. These individuals enhance and inspire businesses every day.

Inclusion Foothills is writing to ask that the Town of Okotoks formally proclaim and help celebrate October as Disability Employment Awareness Month (D.E.A.M.) now and forever to make clear your commitment to employment equity joining communities like, Calgary, Edmonton, and others. This declaration will open more doors for individuals by ensuring that all have equal opportunity to full citizenship, social inclusion, and sustained, meaningful employment.

Together, let's celebrate D.E.A.M. and make workplaces as diverse and inclusive as our communities.

On behalf of Inclusion Foothills, thank you for your time and consideration of this request. We look forward to continued conversations on ways to increase employment equity in the Okotoks area.

Sincerely,

Heather Pfeil

President

Inclusion Foothills



Proclamation, Lighting or Flag Request at the Municipal Centre

Town of Okotoks Corporate Services

5 Elizabeth Street

Okotoks AB T1S 1K1

Inquiries: Phone 403.938.8900 or cao@okotoks.ca

Please Note: Please ensure your request has come in no less than 10 business days prior to the requested Start Date.

Name of the Requesting Organization *

INCLUSION FOOTHILLS

Occasion Title *

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH
(D.E.A.M.)

Request Type *

- ☒ Proclamation
☐ Lighting of the Municipal Centre
☐ Honorary Flag Raising

If requesting a proclamation, the proclamation document must be uploaded below.

Proclamation Start Date *

10/1/2023

Proclamation End Date *

10/31/2023

Please provide comments to support your request below:

Contact Information

First Name *

SANDI

Last Name *

CUNNINGHAM

Phone *

403.603.3232

Email *

jobz@inclusionfoothills.org

Confirm Email *

jobz@inclusionfoothills.org

Address *

[Street Address](#)

123- 4TH AVE SW

[Street Address Line 2](#)

[City / Town](#)

HIGH RIVER

[Province](#)

ALBERTA

[Postal Code](#)

T1V 1M3

Please upload the proclamation document and any other documents or details supporting your request (i.e.: letter from organization, promotional material, etc.). *

DEAM Declaration Letter template.docx

124.86KB

D.E.A.M. Proclamation Statement.docx

803.1KB

The personal information on this form is being collected under the authority of Section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act and will be used to respond to your request. Should you have any questions regarding the collection or use of your personal information, please contact the FOIP Coordinator at foip@okotoks.ca or 403.938.8944.



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Which color(s) did you want to display? *

Please specify the lighting colour(s) your organization is requesting.

Red and White

Lighting Date *

10/2/2023

Please provide comments to support your request below:

Forgot to add this to my first application. I hope this is all you need for

Contact Information

First Name *

SANDI

Last Name *

CUNNINGHAM

Phone *

403.603.3232

Email *

jobz@inclusionfoothills.org

Confirm Email *

jobz@inclusionfoothills.org

Address *

Street Address

123- 4TH AVE SW

Street Address Line 2

City / Town

HIGH RIVER

Province

ALBERTA

Postal Code

T1V 1M3

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