

## **PROCLAMATION**

### **International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation**

WHEREAS International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation is an opportunity to honour everyone— including women, girls, boys, men and gender diverse people—who is actively and courageously working towards an end to this harmful practice, and

WHEREAS 4.1 million girls are still at risk of mutilation each year, including girls in Canada, and

WHEREAS female genital mutilation (FGM) is an issue in more than 90 countries on every continent except Antarctica, and there are at least 200 million FGM survivors in the world, including an estimated 100,000 or more survivors in Canada, and

WHEREAS FGM has no benefits and causes only harm, including death, difficulties with urination, menstruation and sexual intimacy; post-traumatic stress disorder, gender dysphoria and body dysmorphia and increased maternal and child mortality—and is recognized by the United Nations and other global organizations as child abuse and an abuse of a girl's fundamental human rights, and

WHEREAS International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation is an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate all national and international efforts, especially grassroots efforts, to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 5, which calls for the elimination of FGM and other harmful practices by 2030, and

WHEREAS the Town of Whistler supports the human rights of women and girls so they can live a life free from the violence that is female genital mutilation;

We do proclaim and declare that February 6, 2022, shall be known as **International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation**.