RESORT MUNICIPALITY OF WHISTLER

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April 27, 2023

Dear Mayor and Council,

Staff would like to request that the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) celebrate this year's National AccessAbility week taking place from May 28 to June 3, 2023 by proclamation and by lighting up the Fitzsimmons Creek Bridge on May 31. The bridge should be lit up in red to correspond with Easter Seals Canada's Red Shirt Day campaign. The Red Shirt Day campaign is a call to action for people to come together in solidarity to show their support for disabled people and their families, to celebrate the achievements of disabled Canadians, and to pledge their commitment to help create a fully accessible and inclusive society.

The first National Access Awareness Week was held in 1988, which was inspired by Rick Hansen's Man In Motion Tour. There was a recognition that Canadians with disabilities should be celebrated and there was a critical need to improve accessibility and inclusion within our communities. The *Accessible British Columbia Act* also identifies National AccessAbility Week within the Act as a prescribed week each year.

The RMOW's commitment to accessibility has recently been reflected in the adoption of the Accessibility Action Plan (AAP). The AAP represents the culmination of years of work and cooperation between departments and community partners. The AAP provides inclusive actions so individuals of all abilities and ages can engage with the RMOW's workplace, services and built environment.

In summary, publicly recognizing and celebrating National AccessAbility week is symbolic of the RMOW's commitment to ensuring an inclusive and accessible resort community. To mark this day, staff request that Mayor and Council proclaim May 28 to June 3, 2023 as National AccessAbility week and support the lighting up of the Fitzsimmons Creek Bridge on May 31.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Tipler,
Accessibility Coordinator

WHISTLER: A PLACE WHERE OUR COMMUNITY THRIVES, NATURE IS PROTECTED AND GUESTS ARE INSPIRED.

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