



## ***Proclamation***

### **Child Life & Music Therapy Month March 2021**

Whereas, coping with illness, injury and health care experiences are often challenging and stressful for infants, children, adolescents, and families. The child life and music therapy professions were created to address these unique challenges. At IWK Health, the Child Life Service includes certified child life specialists, child life workers, music therapists, and a therapeutic clown. This year, 2021, marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Child Life Services at IWK Health.

Child Life Services, as a whole, work toward a single goal – to help patients and families cope. They use therapeutic play, preparation, education, music, and humour to make potentially traumatic experiences less stressful. As a result, Child Life Services increases patient satisfaction and contributes to improved healthcare experiences for the entire family.

In January 2021, the American Academy of Pediatrics released an updated statement on the importance of child life services. The statement highlights how child life staff use play and developmentally appropriate communication to promote development, educate children and families about medical conditions, prepare children for medical procedures, plan & rehearse coping techniques, help children work through feelings, and partner with the families to create therapeutic relationships.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, I, Mayor Mike Savage, on behalf of Halifax Regional Council, do hereby proclaim March 2021 as “Child Life & Music Therapy Month” in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia  
This 1st day of March 2021



  
Mike Savage  
Mayor