



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RE: Amherst proclaims Access Awareness Week

AMHERST, Nova Scotia – May 28 to June 3, 2023, has been proclaimed Access Awareness Week in the Town of Amherst.

“Our town is committed to fostering a culture of accessibility. We encourage the



FRONT L TO R – JIM PRENDERGAST, MAYOR DAVID KOGON. BACK ROW L TO R COUNCILLOR DALE FAWTHROP, SHARON BRISTOL, COUNCILLOR CHARLIE CHAMBERS

prevention and removal of barriers to improve access for all our citizens. We are working toward equitable access for all,” Mayor David Kogon said as he signed the proclamation on behalf of the Amherst town council on May 29, 2023.

Access Awareness Week aims to celebrate achievements made both by and for persons with disabilities in the areas of accessibility, transportation, housing, employment, recreation, education, and communication.

This is the 37th year that this public awareness initiative has taken place in Nova Scotia. The theme for 2023 Access Awareness Week is *Access includes Everyone: Moving the Bar on Quality of Life*.

One in five Nova Scotians over the age of 15 identify as a person with a disability which makes this year’s theme more poignant. The town’s Accessibility Advisory committee is working to ensure our citizens with lived experiences are heard and factored into the decisions we make through Amherst town council.





The mayor noted there have been advances in the past to improve accessibility for all, “but much work remains to fully recognize the rights of all people and to create a barrier-free province by 2030.”

The province was the third one in the country to adopt accessibility legislation and Canada, which is a signatory to the United Nations Convention of the Rights of People with Disabilities, is one of only a few jurisdictions around the world to have national accessibility legislation.

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