



ARTHRITIS AWARENESS MONTH SEPTEMBER 2003

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS Health care is an issue that all Nova Scotians hold near to our hearts. Today more than ever before, we must work together to ensure that every man, woman and child receives the health care and treatment they deserve and have come to expect; and

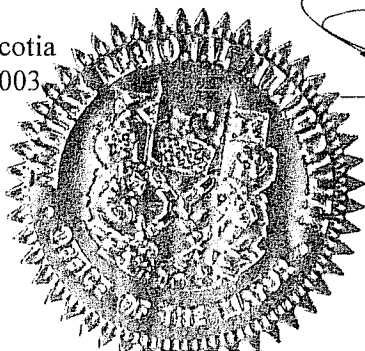
WHEREAS A major health crisis facing Canadians today is arthritis. Four million Canadians, including more than 144,000 Nova Scotians are living with arthritis, and that number is growing quickly. Our ability to provide adequate support to people with arthritis must be addressed if we are to assist them in their fight against this potentially life threatening disease; and

WHEREAS Arthritis is often referred to as a "silent disease." It affects men, women and children of all ages, and there is no cure. Arthritis is Canada's most common chronic illness. It can rob people of their health, security, and sometimes, their very lives. We must ensure that Nova Scotians living with arthritis have fair and equitable access to necessary arthritis specialists, treatments and medications; and

WHEREAS As Nova Scotians, it is our responsibility to work together to help provide family members, friends, and neighbours living with arthritis the care they require, and the hope that we will find a cure for this terrible disease.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, I, Peter J. Kelly, Mayor of the Halifax Regional Municipality do hereby proclaim September as *Arthritis Awareness Month* in the Halifax Regional Municipality and encourage each of you to support the efforts of the Arthritis Society's Door-to-Door campaign when canvassers visit you during the month of September. Through your generosity and support, we can assist the Arthritis Society in its battle against arthritis, and assist all Nova Scotians living with arthritis by providing them with the help they need today, and hope for a better, healthier tomorrow.

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia
this 26th day of August, 2003



Peter J. Kelly
Mayor