

**Rotary International Proclamation
Rotary Awareness Week October 18-25, 2025
World Polio Day October 24, 2025**

- WHEREAS, Rotary is a global network of neighbours, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who unite and take action to create lasting change in communities across the globe; and
- WHEREAS, the Rotary motto, Service Above Self, inspires members to provide humanitarian service, follow high ethical standards, and promote goodwill and peace in the world; and
- WHEREAS, Rotary in 1985 launched PolioPlus and in 1988 helped establish the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, which today includes the World Health Organization, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to immunize the children of the world against polio; and
- WHEREAS, polio cases have dropped by 99.9 percent since 1988 and the world stands on the threshold of eradicating the disease; and
- WHEREAS, to date, Rotary has contributed more than US\$2.9 billion and countless volunteer hours to protecting nearly 3 billion children in 122 countries; and
- WHEREAS, Rotary is working to raise an additional \$50 million per year over the next three years, which would be leveraged for maximum impact by an additional \$150 million annually from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; and
- WHEREAS, these efforts are providing much-needed operational support, medical staff, laboratory equipment, and educational materials for health workers and parents; and
- WHEREAS, in addition, Rotary has played a major role in decisions by donor governments to contribute more than \$10 billion to the effort; and
- WHEREAS, there are over 1.2 million Rotary members in 45,000 clubs throughout the world that sponsor service projects to address such critical issues as poverty, disease, hunger, illiteracy, and the environment in their local communities and abroad;
- WHEREAS, in addition to fighting polio, Rotary's Seven Areas of Focus guide projects in Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution, Disease Prevention and Treatment, Water and Sanitation, Maternal and Child Health, Basic Education and Literacy, Economic and Community Development, and Supporting the Environment. These areas provide a framework for addressing critical global issues and making a positive impact on communities worldwide.

NOW, THEREFORE I, Mayor Julius Bloomfield, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM October 24, 2025 as "World Polio Day" and October 18-25, 2025 as "Rotary Awareness Week" and encourage all citizens to join me and Rotary International in the fight for a polio-free world in the City of Penticton.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julius Bloomfield", is written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Julius Bloomfield