



WHEREAS brain injury can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, ethnic, or social background and of all types of injury, those to the brain are among the most likely to result in a permanent disability or death; and

WHEREAS many of these injuries will result in permanent cognitive, physical, emotional and/or behavioural impairment significant enough to prevent a return to an everyday way of life, creating serious hardships for the individuals, their family, and society in general; and,

WHEREAS education and awareness are the keys to the prevention of brain injury; and,

WHEREAS the promotion of safety devices, such as sports helmets, hard hats, and seat belts, is vital to the prevention of brain injuries; and,

WHEREAS the most recent unhoused point in time count in the Comox Valley revealed that 44 per cent of respondents expressed having an acquired brain injury; and,

WHEREAS the Comox Valley has a uniquely increased risk of brain injury to our population due to our high senior population, the toxic drug supply epidemic, an unhoused population spike due to a housing crisis, and our community's love of outdoor sports; and,

WHEREAS the mission of the Comox Valley Head Injury Society is to promote the health and well-being of our participants through advocacy, education, skill development, and community integration, and to reduce incidences of brain injury in our community through prevention-based education throughout the year;

THEREFORE as Chair, I do hereby proclaim **June 2024** as **Brain Injury Awareness month** within the Comox Valley Regional District

Will Cole-Hamilton

Dated this 4th day of June, 2024

