



## **World PANS PANDAS Awareness Day**

### **October 9, 2025**

**WHEREAS** Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS) and Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS) are serious neuroinflammatory conditions that cause the sudden onset of severe mental health and neurological symptoms;

**WHEREAS** children and adults affected by PANS/PANDAS may rapidly experience debilitating symptoms, including obsessive-compulsive behaviours, extreme anxiety, personality changes, loss of academic and motor skills, sensory sensitivities, eating difficulties, and motor tics, significantly impacting their daily lives and families;

**WHEREAS** early recognition and treatment of PANS/PANDAS are critical to recovery, yet lack of awareness can lead to misdiagnosis and delayed care. It is essential that laboratory testing be considered in mental health settings to rule out infection as a potential cause of sudden-onset neuropsychiatric symptoms. Alberta continues to play a leading role nationally in improving diagnosis and treatment outcomes for patients;

**WHEREAS** the Town of Okotoks acknowledges and commends the dedicated efforts of parents, healthcare providers, and organizations such as the Inflamed Brain Alliance, who work tirelessly to raise awareness, advance education and research, and provide support to individuals and families affected by these conditions;

**WHEREAS** the Town of Okotoks has proclaimed October 9th as World PANS PANDAS Awareness Day in Okotoks; now

**THEREFORE** Members of Okotoks Town Council do hereby proclaim October 9, 2025 as World PANS PANDAS Awareness Day in the Town of Okotoks.