



## **WORLD HEMOPHILIA DAY**

### **APRIL 17, 2026**

**WHEREAS** every April 17, the World Federation of Hemophilia (WFH) and a great number of its member organizations, including the Canadian Hemophilia Society (CHS), are asking landmarks all over the world to *Light it Up Red!* in the name of World Hemophilia Day. Lighting up a building or landmark in red helps bring attention to those affected by inherited bleeding disorders; and

**WHEREAS** for more than 70 years, the CHS has been advocating to improve the health and quality of life for all people in Canada living with an inherited bleeding disorder until cures are universally available. Its vision is a world free from the pain and suffering of inherited bleeding disorders; and

**WHEREAS** since its foundation in 1953, the CHS has been committed to helping all Canadians carrying the gene of an inherited bleeding disorder. The bleeding disorders include hemophilia, von Willebrand disease, rare factor deficiencies, and inherited platelet disorders; and

**WHEREAS** the CHS works in collaboration with its ten provincial chapters and health care specialists in Canada's 26 bleeding disorder treatment centres; and

**WHEREAS** about 41,000 Canadians carrying the gene of an inherited bleeding disorder have symptoms severe enough to require medical care. Yet many have not been properly diagnosed. Effective treatment is available for those diagnosed but left untreated bleeding disorders can be life-threatening; and

**WHEREAS** blood products, their recombinant substitutes and other drugs are effective in treating people with bleeding disorders, but they are not yet a cure. The CHS is active in ensuring that the widest choice of therapies is offered to the bleeding disorder community

**WHEREAS** the CHS is also active in ensuring the safety of the blood supply in Canada through constant vigilance and monitoring for all Canadians

**WHEREAS** on April 17, the global bleeding disorder community highlights the victories and successes as well as the immense work still to be accomplished. We have seen amazing participation over the past few years for the *Light it Up Red!* initiative. In Canada, the CN Tower in Toronto and the Olympic Stadium in Montreal are just two examples of this initiative

**NOW THEREFORE** Members of Okotoks Town Council do hereby proclaim April 17, 2026 as World Hemophilia Day in the Town of Okotoks.\_

Dated this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2026

--ORIGINAL SIGNED--