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THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BARRIE
Mayor's Office

PROCLAMATION

I, JEFF LEHMAN, Mayor of the City of BARRIE,

do hereby proclaim

September 9, 2019

as

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day

- WHEREAS;** The term "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder" (FASD) describes the range of disabilities that can occur in an individual who was exposed to alcohol in utero/or during pregnancy; and
- WHEREAS;** There is no safe amount, no safe time, or no safe kind of alcohol that a woman can drink during pregnancy; and
- WHEREAS;** Prenatal alcohol exposure is the leading preventable cause of birth defects, such as physical and mental disability and behavioural and/or learning challenges; and
- WHEREAS;** About half of all pregnancies are unplanned meaning developing fetuses are inadvertently exposed to alcohol. The exact number of people who have FASD is unknown, but it is estimated that 2 to 3 per cent of the population are born with effects of prenatal alcohol exposure annually; and
- WHEREAS;** The estimated cost of FASD in Canada is \$4 billion per year covering education, health, social services and justice costs; and
- WHEREAS;** People around the world began observing International FASD Awareness Day on September 9 each year beginning in 1999, in order that on the ninth day of the ninth month of the year, the world will remember that during the nine months of pregnancy it is important to abstain from alcohol; and
- WHEREAS;** The good health and well-being of residents are enhanced by the support of a national effort to educate about and prevent FASD through the Simcoe County FASD Prevention Committee, part of the Simcoe County FASD Initiative.
- THEREFORE,** I, Jeff Lehman, Mayor of the City of Barrie, do hereby proclaim **September 9, 2019** as "**Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day**" in the City of Barrie, to promote awareness, understanding and to ensure a healthier community in the future.



Jeff Lehman,
Mayor