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# PROCLAMATION

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## *June 2023 is Recreation & Parks Month - In support of PaRx - A Prescription for Nature*

**Whereas**, in British Columbia we are fortunate to have a variety of recreation and parks systems providing countless recreational opportunities for residents and visitors from around the world; and

**Whereas**, recreation and access to parks and nature enhance quality of life, active living and lifelong learning, helps people live happier and longer, develops skills and positive self-image in children and youth, develops creativity and builds healthy bodies and positive lifestyles; and

**Whereas**, recreation participation builds family unity and social capital, strengthens volunteer and community development, enhances social interaction, creates community pride and vitality, and promotes sensitivity and understanding to cultural diversity; and

**Whereas**, recreation, therapeutic recreation and leisure education are essential to the rehabilitation of individuals who have become ill or disabled, or disadvantaged, or who have demonstrated antisocial behaviour; and

**Whereas**, the benefits provided by recreation and parks programs and services reduce healthcare and social service costs, boost the economy, provide economic renewal and sustainability, enhance property values, attract new businesses, increase tourism and curb employee absenteeism; and

**Whereas**, our parks, open space and trails ensure ecological sustainability, provide space to enjoy and connect with nature, help maintain clean air and water, preserve plant and animal wildlife, and inspire environmental stewardship; and,

**Whereas**, all levels of government, the voluntary sector and private enterprise throughout the Province participate in the planning, development and operation of recreation and parks programs, services and facilities.

**Whereas**, The Canadian Medical Association has enshrined nature prescriptions in its official policies and the BC Parks Foundation has developed a national Park Prescriptions program, PaRx, in recognition of the health benefits of time in parks and nature.

**Now, Therefore be it Resolved**, that the BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) does hereby proclaim that June, which witnesses the greening of British Columbia and serves as a significant gateway to family activities, has been designated as *June is Recreation & Parks Month – In support of PaRx – A Prescription for Nature*, which recognizes and celebrates the health benefits derived year round from quality public and private recreation and parks resources at the local, regional and provincial levels.

**Therefore**, \_\_\_\_\_ (name of municipality/ community/organization), in recognition of the benefits and values that recreation, parks and leisure services provide, does hereby designate the month of June as *June is Recreation & Parks Month – In support of PaRx - A Prescription for Nature*.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2023 by:

\_\_\_\_\_ (print name and title)

\_\_\_\_\_ (signature)

