

For Immediate Release: 03/21/2024

**PRESS RELEASE: THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL PURPLE DAY® FOR EPILEPSY AWARENESS!**

March is Epilepsy Awareness Month, also known as Purple Month, which culminates in International PURPLE DAY® for Epilepsy Awareness on March 26<sup>th</sup>. The Province of British Columbia is celebrating this special day by illuminating several landmarks across the province and by having Proclamations being read in cities, districts, towns, and villages across the province.

**Landmarks:** Every year on International PURPLE DAY® for Epilepsy Awareness, several iconic BC landmarks are illuminated with purple lights in honour of epilepsy awareness. Please see below for a list of BC landmarks that will be participating this year:

*Greater Vancouver Regional District:*

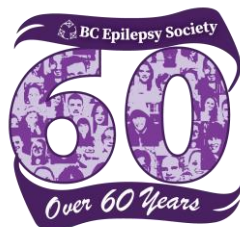
- Burnaby City Hall – Burnaby, BC
- Skytrain Pillars of the BC Parkway – Burnaby, BC
- Lafarge Lake Fountain – Coquitlam, BC
- Light Column in Front of Coquitlam City Hall – Coquitlam, BC
- Skytrain Pillars along Pinetree Way – Coquitlam, BC
- Heartbeat Light Structure – Granville Island, BC
- Lights at Railspur Alley – Granville Island, BC
- New Westminster City Hall – New Westminster, BC
- Port Coquitlam City Hall – Port Coquitlam, BC
- Port Moody City Hall – Port Moody, BC
- Sechelt Municipal Hall – Sechelt, BC
- BC Place – Vancouver, BC
- Bentall Centre – Vancouver, BC
- Bloedel Conservatory – Vancouver, BC
- Burrard Bridge – Vancouver, BC
- Canada Place Sails of Light – Vancouver, BC
- Olympic Cauldron – Vancouver, BC
- Telus Garden – Vancouver, BC
- Vancouver City Hall – Vancouver, BC
- Vancouver Lookout – Vancouver, BC
- Vancouver Convention Centre – Vancouver, BC
- Fitzsimmons Creek Bridge – Whistler, BC

*Greater Fraser Valley Regional District:*

- Kent Municipal Hall – Kent, BC
- Douglas Spirit Square – Langley, BC
- Surrey Civic Plaza – Surrey, BC
- White Rock Pier – White Rock, BC

*Vancouver Island:*

- Colwood Fire Rescue – Colwood, BC
- World's Largest Hockey Stick and Puck – Duncan, BC
- Archie Browning Sports Centre – Esquimalt, BC
- Esquimalt Adventure Park – Esquimalt, BC



- Ladysmith City Hall – Ladysmith, BC
- Ladysmith Town Sign – Ladysmith, BC
- The Bastion – Nanaimo, BC
- Parksville City Hall and the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre – Parksville, BC
- District Sign – Ucluelet, BC
- BC Parliament Building – Victoria, BC
- Victoria City Hall – Victoria, BC

*Interior BC:*

- Kinnaird Interchange Overpass – Castlegar, BC
- Kelowna Visitor Centre – Kelowna, BC
- Highway 3 LED Sign – Keremeos, BC
- Oliver Town Hall – Oliver, BC
- Sicamous Roundabout Structure – Sicamous, BC
- Victoria Street Bridge – Trail, BC
- Williams Lake City Hall – Williams Lake, BC

*Northern BC:*

- Centennial Park Stage – Fort St. John, BC
- Mackenzie Recreation Centre and Library – Mackenzie, BC
- Fraser River Foot Bridge – Quesnel, BC

**Proclamations:** Proclamations were received from many cities, districts, towns, and villages across BC to commemorate International PURPLE DAY® for Epilepsy Awareness as well as from the Province of British Columbia. Please see below for a list of places that provided a Proclamation:

*Province of British Columbia*

*Greater Vancouver Regional District:*

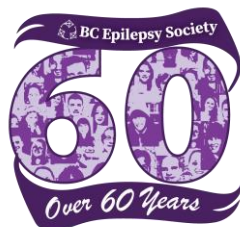
- City of New Westminster
- City of Port Coquitlam
- City of Port Moody
- City of Richmond
- District of Squamish
- City of Vancouver
- Resort Municipality of Whistler

*Greater Fraser Valley Regional District:*

- District of Kent
- City of Mission
- City of Surrey

*Vancouver Island:*

- City of Campbell River
- District of Central Saanich
- City of Colwood
- Comox Valley Regional District
- City of Courtenay
- District of Highlands



- Town of Ladysmith
- City of Langford
- City of Nanaimo
- District of North Saanich
- District of Oak Bay
- City of Port Alberni
- District of Port Hardy
- District of Saanich
- District of Sooke
- City of Victoria
- Town of View Royal

*Interior BC:*

- Village of Chase
- Town of Oliver
- City of Trail
- City of Williams Lake

*Northern BC:*

- City of Fort St. John
- District of Kitimat
- District of Mackenzie
- Northern Rockies Regional Municipality
- City of Prince George
- District of Taylor

**Learn more about International PURPLE DAY® for Epilepsy Awareness:** Cassidy Megan created the idea of International PURPLE DAY® for Epilepsy Awareness in 2008 when she was only nine-years-old, motivated by her own struggles with epilepsy. Cassidy's goal is to get people talking about epilepsy in an effort to dispel myths and inform those with seizures that they are not alone.

**Learn more about Epilepsy:** Epilepsy is a medical condition that results in recurring seizures. A seizure is a sudden, brief, and temporary disturbance of electrical activity in the brain. There are over 40 different kinds of seizures which can alter consciousness, movement, sensation, speech, awareness, and behaviour. It has been found that 1 in 100 people will develop epilepsy at some point during their life and that 1 in 10 people will experience a seizure at some point during their life.

**Learn more about the BC Epilepsy Society:** The BC Epilepsy Society is a provincially incorporated charitable organization and a federally registered non-profit organization that provides information, advocacy, and support to the over 50,000 people living with epilepsy in BC and their families and seeks to raise the awareness of epilepsy. If you would like to learn more about seizures and epilepsy; find out more about the BC Epilepsy Society and the programs and services that we offer; or receive support for yourself or a loved one living with epilepsy, please visit our website at [www.bcepilepsy.com](http://www.bcepilepsy.com) or contact us via telephone at 604-875-6704 or via email at either [deirdre@bcepilepsy.com](mailto:deirdre@bcepilepsy.com) or [sonia@bcepilepsy.com](mailto:sonia@bcepilepsy.com).

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