



PROCLAMATION

International Literacy Day in Prince Edward County

September 8

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Canada has recognized that learning to read is a human right and the Canadian Paediatric Society recognizes low literacy as a serious public health concern, with an estimated forty-two percent of Canadian adults having low literacy abilities; and

WHEREAS, higher literacy levels correspond with better physical, mental, and economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, equitable access to books, education, and other literacy learning opportunities — starting from birth, and throughout childhood and adulthood — is an essential building block of a healthy, happy, engaged, and thriving community; and

WHEREAS, International Literacy Day, observed annually on September 8th, highlights the importance of literacy as a fundamental human right and a matter of dignity; and

WHEREAS, when supported and educated through literacy initiatives, residents have the potential to enhance our community as empowered children and youth, workers, entrepreneurs, and leaders; and

WHEREAS, Prince Edward County celebrates the essential work of local literacy organizations including County Kids Read, the Prince Edward County Public Library, the Prince Edward Learning Centre, and our local schools; and

WHEREAS, investing in literacy initiatives helps ensure that every Prince Edward County resident has an equal right to read, and to a bright future;

THEREFORE, I, Steve Ferguson, Mayor of Prince Edward County, officially recognize September 8 as International Literacy Day in Prince Edward County.

DATED at Picton this 8th day of September 2026.

Mayor Steve Ferguson