

## **PROCLAMATION**

### ***Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness Month***

**May 1st to 31st,, 2026**

#### **“MELANOMA AND SKIN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”**

WHEREAS It is imperative that communities across Canada be reminded of the importance of sun safety;

AND WHEREAS Over-exposure to UV radiation is one of the major causes of melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers;

AND WHEREAS Skin cancer is the most common of all cancers. 1 in 6 Canadians born in the 1990s will get skin cancer in their lifetimes;

AND WHEREAS Many people seek sun without taking the advisable precautionary measures and are unaware that any darkening of skin colour, including a tan, is indicative of UV damage;

AND WHEREAS Skin self-examinations should be performed on a monthly basis because skin cancers are highly treatable when detected early;

AND WHEREAS Save Your Skin Foundation is dedicated to the fight against non-melanoma skin cancers, melanoma and ocular melanoma through nationwide education, advocacy, and awareness initiatives:

NOW THEREFORE I, Martin Ritsma, Mayor of Stratford, do hereby proclaim May 2026, as “Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness Month” in Stratford.