



# Proclamation

October 24, 2020

## World Polio Day

I, **Mayor Sandy Brown**, proclaim October 24, 2020 as “**World Polio Day**” in the Town of Orangeville;

**Whereas**, World Polio Day brings people together to remember Dr. Jonas Salk, the man who led the first team to develop a vaccine against polio and that enabled the world to embark on an ambitious journey – the eradication of polio; and

**Whereas**, World Polio Day is an opportunity for the polio eradication community to renew its promise to future generations; and

**Whereas**, Rotary International in 1985 launched PolioPlus and spearheaded the Global Polio Eradication Initiative with the World Health Organization and UNICEF to immunize the children of the world against polio and today the world stands on the threshold of eradicating the disease; and

**Whereas**, to date, Rotary International has contributed more than \$1.9 billion and countless volunteer hours to the eradication of polio in the world, and since 1988 polio cases have dropped by 99.9 percent; and

**Whereas**, in the 1980’s there were over 1,000 cases per day occurring, today the numbers are in the double digits annually, with Africa officially declared as Polio Free in August 2020, leaving cases only in Pakistan and Afghanistan; and

**Whereas**, the Rotary Club of Orangeville and the Rotary Club of Orangeville Highlands have over the past 10 years donated funds to Rotary International’s PolioPlus campaign to cover polio vaccinations for over 16,500 children; and

**Whereas**, let the success achieved in the fight against polio serve as tangible proof vaccines work and must be encouraged.

**Now Therefore**, I encourage all citizens to observe October 24, 2020 as World Polio Day in the Town of Orangeville to recognize the many volunteers who vaccinate the children and the organizations working to end polio.

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Sandy Brown, Mayor