



RESOLUTION

Eradication of Poverty

WHEREAS: This year marks the 30th anniversary of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, designated by the United Nations to raise awareness about the urgent need to eliminate poverty globally. However, recent crises, including the pandemic and the war in Ukraine, have intensified the challenges; and

WHEREAS: Dignity for all in practice is the umbrella theme of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty for 2022-2023. The dignity of the human being is a fundamental right in itself and constitutes the basis of all other fundamental rights. Therefore, “Dignity” is not an abstract concept: it belongs to each and every one. Today, many people living in persistent poverty experience their dignity being denied and disrespected; and

WHEREAS: In order to address the urgent challenges we face, such as poverty eradication, it is crucial for governments and communities to act swiftly and “build forward better and smarter” while upholding dignity. To quote Nelson Mandela: “Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life. While poverty persists, there is no true freedom; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: That CBRM Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill and Council proclaim October 17, 2023, as International Day for the Eradication of Poverty in the Cape Breton Regional Municipality and urge all levels of government and community organizations to support the development of a National Livable Basic Income program, by sending letters on behalf of Council:

- urging the Prime Minister, Premier and relevant ministers to implement a National Livable Basic Income program;
- asking the Premier to form an all-party committee to study how best to implement such a program for Nova Scotia; and
- call on the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities to ask all Nova Scotia municipalities to express their support for a Livable Basic Income.

Councillor Ken Tracey – CBRM District #9

October 10th, 2023