

## DECLARATION

WHEREAS: Therapeutic recreation professionals work in a variety of health care settings to provide services for Albertans with physical and mental illness, disabling conditions and aging;

AND WHEREAS: Therapeutic recreation professionals develop plans with clients based on their interests and strengths and help them achieve improved independence, social connection, community involvement and overall quality of life;

AND WHEREAS: The role of therapeutic recreation professionals during the COVID 19 pandemic has been integral to maintaining quality of life for Albertans at congregate living sites, acute care hospitals, addiction and mental health service sites and rehabilitation programs;

**AND WHEREAS:** The benefits of therapeutic recreation include reducing illness and maintaining physical health, psychosocial health, cognitive functioning and personal and life satisfaction, and ultimately, lead to improved health outcomes;

THEREFORE: THE HONOURABLE JASON COPPING IS PROUD TO DECLARE FEBRUARY 2023 AS THERAPEUTIC RECREATION AWARENESS MONTH IN ALBERTA.

The Honourable Jason Copping

Minister of Health