

PROCLAMATION

Sexual Violence Awareness Month

May 2026

WHEREAS: Everyone in Canada deserves to be safe and free from violence. May is Sexual Violence Prevention Month, an opportunity to raise awareness about sexual abuse and support people experiencing sexual violence in this country; and

WHEREAS: Approximately 1 in 3 women and 1 in 10 men in Canada experience sexual violence in their lifetime. Over 50% of women who were abused during childhood reported being sexually assaulted at some point again after age 15. Sexual violence disproportionately affects minority groups including Indigenous women and girls, people with disabilities, black women and individuals from 2SLGBTQI+ communities, particularly youth aged 15-24; and

WHEREAS: Sexual violence includes any type of sexual activity without consent. Consent must be clearly given and can be taken back at any moment. Even if you are in a serious relationship, married, engaged, and regardless of the nature of your relationship, your partner cannot require you to have sex; and

WHEREAS: Sexual violence can have severe physical and mental health impacts that have long-lasting consequences. The Government of Canada is committed to preventing and addressing the underlying causes of sexual violence in all its forms, supporting survivors and organizations dealing with sexual violence and abuse; and

THEREFORE: I, Mayor Simon Boersma, do hereby declare May 2026, as **Sexual Violence Awareness Month**, in the Town of Morinville.



Mayor Simon Boersma

