



Proclamation

Community Inclusion Month

October, 2017

BECAUSE “inclusion” means welcoming everyone in ways that respect and celebrate diversity, and ensuring that differences aren’t barriers to full engagement and participation, and

BECAUSE inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities lets us all use our gifts, talents and abilities to build a stronger British Columbia together, and

BECAUSE Article 24 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities gives students with disabilities the right to inclusive education, with fair opportunities to learn, grow, excel and contribute in school, and

BECAUSE all students learn better when we all work together to help schools support inclusive learning, and

BECAUSE inclusion of students with intellectual disabilities teaches all students to value diversity and to understand that everyone belongs in our schools and communities, and

BECAUSE in October, BC communities are celebrating inclusion, diversity and the strengths and abilities of people with intellectual disabilities, and

BECAUSE the theme for Community Inclusion Month is: **“Everyone belongs in BC’s schools”**;

THEREFORE, we announce that October 2017 is **“Community Inclusion Month”** in the Province of British Columbia.

Faith Bodnar
Executive Director, Inclusion BC

Jackie Carpenter
President, Inclusion BC