



14-November-2024

Mayor Craig Copeland
c/o the City of Cold Lake, Alberta

Dear Mayor Copeland,

I am writing on behalf of EmployAbilities to request that Cold Lake, Alberta officially recognize December 3rd as **International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD)**. This day, established by the United Nations in 1992, is observed globally to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society. The day serves as an important reminder to all communities of the need to raise awareness about disability inclusion and to advocate for the dignity, rights, and fundamental freedoms of people with disabilities.

EmployAbilities is dedicated to supporting individuals with disabilities through inclusive employment practices and community engagement. As a leading advocate for disability employment, we believe that all individuals deserve the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to their communities. Employment is a key component of independence and self-sufficiency, and by working together, we can foster environments where everyone has equal access to employment opportunities.

We respectfully request that Cold Lake, Alberta officially proclaim December 3rd as International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Doing so will not only honor the contributions of persons with disabilities to our community but will also send a powerful message about the importance of fostering inclusive workplaces and public spaces. It would be an opportunity to highlight the ongoing efforts toward making our community more accessible and welcoming for all.

We would be honored if the proclamation could be presented during a public council meeting or community event. We have partnered with CFB Cold Lake and are having an event at the 4 Wing theatre on 03-December-2024 starting at 1 pm. It is for Military personnel and will have information on disability services available in the community for their family and dependants. This would allow us to promote the proclamation broadly through our networks and to encourage further community engagement. We have supplied a sample template for the proclamation, should that be helpful.

Thank you for your consideration of this important recognition. We are confident that Cold Lake, Alberta can be a leader in championing disability inclusion and employment accessibility.

We look forward to working with you to make this proclamation a reality and to celebrating International Day of Persons with Disabilities with our entire community.

Sincerely,
Susan Forbes
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