

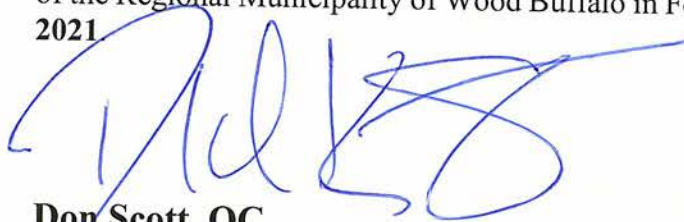
## *PROCLAMATION*

- WHEREAS** the United Nation’s International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is recognized around the world on October 17; and
- WHEREAS** according to the Poverty Reduction Network, more than 28 percent of households in the region earn less than the average cost of living, and more than 2000 households spend about 50 per cent of their income on food, rent and utilities; and
- WHEREAS** Statistics Canada data indicate that the unemployment rate in Wood Buffalo reached 8.5 per cent in 2020; and
- WHEREAS** the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the need for social and mental health services; and
- WHEREAS** the goal of the Poverty Reduction Network is to raise awareness and strengthen public understanding about the state of poverty and homelessness in our region; and
- WHEREAS** the Poverty Reduction Network works to address poverty and homelessness by raising awareness through its local campaign “**Hidden All Around Us.**”

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Don Scott, Mayor of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, do hereby proclaim **October 11 - 17, 2021**, as:

### **“POVERTY AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK”**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunder set my hand and caused to be affixed the seal of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo in Fort McMurray, Alberta, this **11 day of October 2021**



**Don Scott, QC**  
**Mayor**

