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March is Kidney Health Month in the City of Parksville

Mayor Ed Mayne has proclaimed March as "Kidney Health Month" in the City of Parksville. Known as the silent disease, kidney disease is one of the most misunderstood yet life-threatening illnesses affecting society today.

"I recognize March as an important time to raise awareness of kidney health issues and wish to acknowledge the annual door-to-door fundraising campaign in our community," said Mayor Ed Mayne. "As a diabetic, I know personally about the importance of kidney health and commend the Kidney Foundation, BC Branch, for many years of dedicated work in promoting kidney health along with the many volunteers committed to improving the life of people affected by the disease."

Over five thousand adults, youth and children in British Columbia live with chronic kidney disease. Almost half rely on dialysis treatments and there are close to 300 people facing seven to ten years on the transplant waitlist. In addition, it is estimated that 145,000 people in this province have undiagnosed kidney disease. Most are unaware that they have it because the symptoms are silent and often mistaken for other conditions. Kidney disease cannot be cured, but it can be treated. The right treatment can help slow the progression of the disease to kidney failure. If the kidneys fail, dialysis and kidney transplant are the only options.

Monies raised during March help fund research, provide education and support, promote access to high quality healthcare and raise awareness about the need for organ donation and the issues facing people who live with kidney disease.

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