



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS:** A healthy, professional news media is essential for the proper functioning of civil society and democracy at the local, regional, federal and international levels,

**WHEREAS:** The United Nations has proclaimed “World Press Freedom Day” as an annual observance each May 3rd; and

**WHEREAS:** According to the Local News Research Project, 516 news outlets in 345 communities across Canada have closed or merged from 2008 to December 2023 (compared to the opening of 215 in 152 communities),

**WHEREAS:** Red Deer was among 28 municipalities in one territory and nine provinces across Canada that recognized World Press Freedom Day in 2023

**WHEREAS:** The theme for World Press Freedom Day 2024 is “A Press for the Planet: Journalism in the face of the Environmental Crisis,”

### NOW THEREFORE,

I, Ken Johnston, Mayor of the City of Red Deer, hereby recognize May 3rd, 2024, as World Press Freedom Day.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Official Seal of The City of Red Deer, Alberta, to be affixed.

  
Mayor Ken Johnston  
City of Red Deer

