



## Proclamation

January 27, 2019

### Family Literacy Day

**WHEREAS** the Prince Edward County **2018 Vital Sign Report** provides evidence that local children's literacy scores and skills are significantly below the provincial average; and

**WHEREAS** our pre-school children score lower on the Early Development Index making them vulnerable throughout childhood and their teenage years; and

**WHEREAS** increasing the time families spend reading together results in significant benefits including:

- Stronger connections between parents and children
- Increased vocabulary
- Modelling that supports lifelong learning and engagement with the world
- Developing a love of literature and a positive attitude towards learning
- Creating alternatives to "screen time" that help foster imagination, cognitive function, communication skills, and analytical abilities
- Increasing school readiness and success in the classroom
- Providing opportunities to learn new information, discuss values, relationships, and important life issues
- Creating joyful experiences for parents and children of all ages

**WHEREAS** January 27, 2019 will mark the 20th anniversary of Family Literacy Day in Canada; and

**WHEREAS** many community partners are working hard to support families and increase literacy; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Steve Ferguson, Mayor of The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward, do hereby proclaim January 27, 2019 the first annual Family Literacy Day in Prince Edward County.

**DATED** at Picton this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2019

Mayor Steve Ferguson