



Proclamation

October 24, 2024
World Polio Day

Whereas, World Polio Day is held on October 24 in celebration of the birth of Dr. Jonas Salk, the researcher who developed the first polio vaccine in 1955; and

Whereas, Rotary International, with 2 active clubs in Orangeville, launched PolioPlus in 1985 and spearheaded the Global Polio Eradication Initiative with the World Health Organization and UNICEF to immunize the children of the world against polio; and

Whereas, the Rotary Club of Orangeville and the Rotary Club of Orangeville Highlands have over the past 13 years donated funds to the PolioPlus campaign to cover vaccinations for over 20,000 children; and

Whereas, since 1985 cases due to the wild polio virus have dropped by 99.9 percent, from over 350,000 cases annually to 34 cases year-to-date in 2024; and

Whereas, Rotary has promised to remain a partner in this important health measure until polio is officially eradicated, contributing more than \$USD 2.1 billion and countless volunteer hours to protecting more than 3 billion children in 122 countries; and

Whereas, these efforts are providing the much needed operational support, medical staff, laboratory equipment, and education materials for health workers and parents; and

Now Therefore, I, Mayor Lisa Post, on behalf of Council, proclaim **October 24, 2024** as “**World Polio Day**” in the Town of Orangeville and encourage all citizens to recognize the extraordinary efforts that have led to countless lives being saved from polio and to join the fight for a polio-free world.

Lisa Post
Mayor