



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF NORTH BAY, ONTARIO
PROCLAMATION**

Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes (EDS) Month

- WHEREAS:** Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes (EDS) are a group of inherited connective tissue disorders that affect the body's ability to produce and maintain healthy collagen, a protein essential for the strength and integrity of skin, joints, blood vessels, and internal organs; and
- WHEREAS:** individuals living with EDS may experience joint hypermobility, frequent dislocations, chronic pain, fragile skin, and, in some cases, serious and life-threatening complications affecting the vascular system and internal organs; and
- WHEREAS:** EDS affects people of all ages, genders, and backgrounds, and while it is classified as a rare disease, it is widely underdiagnosed and often misdiagnosed, resulting in significant delays in diagnosis and access to appropriate care; and
- WHEREAS:** it is estimated that approximately 1 in 5,000 individuals are diagnosed with a form of EDS, though emerging research suggests that hypermobile EDS and related conditions may be far more common, meaning thousands of individuals across Ontario are impacted; and
- WHEREAS:** there is currently no cure for EDS, and treatment focuses on managing symptoms, preventing injury, and improving quality of life through multidisciplinary care, including physical therapy, pain management, and supportive services; and
- WHEREAS:** increased awareness and research are critically needed to improve early diagnosis, expand treatment options, support affected individuals and families, and advance scientific understanding of these complex disorders; and
- WHEREAS:** recognizing Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome Awareness Month provides an opportunity to raise public awareness, support those living with EDS, and encourage continued advocacy, education, and research efforts across Ontario.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Chirico, Mayor of the City of North Bay, do hereby proclaim the month of May as Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes month in the City of North Bay.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of this City to be affixed

Mayor Peter Chirico
Dated 1st day of April 2026

