



PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

# PROCLAMATION

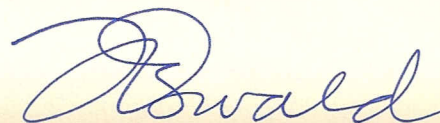
## WORLD CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE (COPD) DAY

- WHEREAS** COPD affects over 3 million Canadians of which 1.5 million are diagnosed and approximately another 1.6 million are unaware that they have developed it; and
- WHEREAS** COPD is the fourth leading cause of death in Canada; and
- WHEREAS** individuals with COPD are often unaware that they have developed the disease as the main symptoms, shortness of breath or trouble breathing and a cough lasting longer than 3 months, are often ignored or disregarded; and
- WHEREAS** the major risk factors for COPD are smoking, including second-hand smoke and exposure to air pollutants, especially in the workplace; and
- WHEREAS** COPD is a serious health issue that has devastating impacts on the quality of life for both men and women; and
- WHEREAS** the Canadian Thoracic Society recommends early diagnosis through targeted spirometric testing and smoking cessation to prevent disease progression; and
- WHEREAS** the COPD Canada Patient Network advocates for better medications, better care, early testing, education for people living with COPD, education for the medical community, more rehabilitation facilities and increased awareness for the public and policy makers; and
- WHEREAS** this year's observance of World COPD Day calls attention to the need for more public and medical awareness and education about the risk factors of COPD, and the importance of early testing;

**Now therefore let it be known that I, Theresa Oswald, Minister of Health for the Province of Manitoba, do hereby proclaim November 17, 2010, as:**

## WORLD CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE DAY

in Manitoba, and do commend its thoughtful recognition to all citizens of our province.



Theresa Oswald  
MINISTER