



PROCLAMATION

WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY

September 10, 2026

- WHEREAS: World Suicide Prevention Day is observed annually on September 10 and was established in 2003 by the International Association for Suicide Prevention in partnership with the World Health Organization to bring global attention to suicide prevention and unite communities, organizations, and governments in the belief that suicide is preventable; and
- WHEREAS: suicide is a significant public health challenge, with more than 720,000 people losing their lives to suicide each year worldwide, and each loss having profound and lasting social, emotional, and economic impacts on families, friends, workplaces, and communities; and
- WHEREAS: changing the narrative on suicide, calls on all of us to challenge harmful myths, reduce stigma, and foster open, compassionate conversations about suicide and create environments where people feel safe to speak about their struggles and seek help when they need it; and
- WHEREAS: changing the narrative also means recognizing that suicide prevention is a shared responsibility that requires action at every level, including strengthening mental health and suicide prevention initiatives, improving access to appropriate supports and services, and ensuring that people experiencing distress can access the help they need; and
- WHEREAS: Smoky Lake County recognizes the importance of breaking down stigma, encouraging meaningful conversations, and creating a community where people feel seen, heard, valued, and supported.
- NOW THEREFORE: I, Reeve, Craig Lukinuk of Smoky Lake County, hereby proclaim September 10, 2026 as World Suicide Prevention Day in Smoky Lake County and encourage our residents to join in changing the narrative on suicide by challenging stigma, listening with compassion, checking in on those around them, speaking openly about mental health, and helping create a community where no one feels they have to face difficult times alone.