



PROCLAMATION

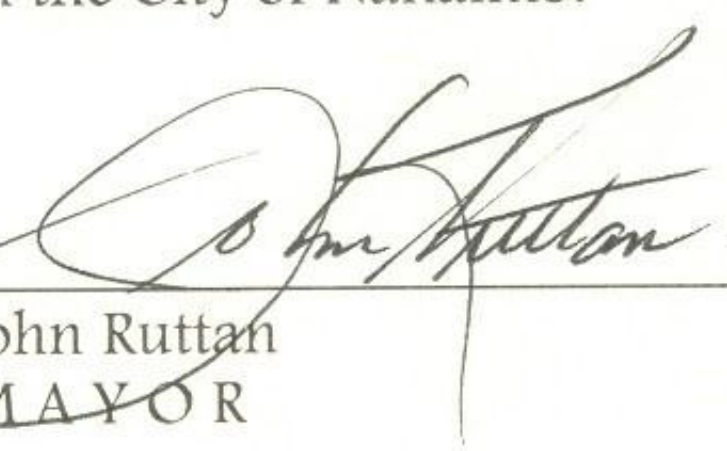
PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS DAY  
APRIL 25/2009

- WHEREAS: alienating behaviours are often found in high conflict divorce and custody situations; and
- WHEREAS: these behaviours, such as speaking negatively about a parent to or in front of a child, interfering with communication and visitation, and discussing inappropriate information with a child, such as details of the marriage, court proceedings, or financial matters, can not only destroy the bond between a loving parent and child, but can cause mental and emotional harm to the child; and
- WHEREAS: Parental Alienation takes advantage of the suggestibility and dependency of children; and
- WHEREAS: Parental Alienation deprives children of their right to love and be loved by both parents; and
- WHEREAS: Parental Alienation is considered harmful to children and robs them of their sense of security; and
- WHEREAS: professionals agree that the problem of Parental Alienation exists and is damaging to children and can affect them in to adulthood with tragic consequence; and
- WHEREAS: there are more than 2.4 million divorced North Americans including the parents of more than 1 million children under the age of eighteen, with nearly as many unmarried couples with children separating; and
- WHEREAS: with awareness comes education and understanding.

NOW, THEREFORE I, John Ruttan, Mayor of the City of Nanaimo, do hereby proclaim that April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009, shall be known as:

**"PARENTAL ALIENATION AWARENESS DAY"**

in the City of Nanaimo.

  
John Ruttan  
MAYOR

DATED THIS 20TH DAY OF APRIL, 2009.

