Joint Proclamation

WHEREAS, stroke is the 5th leading cause of death in the United States and a leading cause of disability; and

WHEREAS, people who suffer from a stroke have a much higher chance of recovery if they receive treatment quickly; and

WHEREAS, 9 out of 10 Whatcom County residents who come into PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center Emergency Room for stroke treatment do not make it within the 90 minute window to safely deliver tPA, a clot-busting shot, because they are unable to identify the time of symptom onset; and

WHEREAS, the 'Act FAST' campaign developed by the American Stroke Association aims to raise stroke awareness and the need to call emergency services at the onset of suspect stroke; and

WHEREAS, Act FAST stands for Face, Arms, Speech, Time to call 911, and serves to build awareness in the community about signs and symptoms of stroke and what action to take if a stroke is witnessed; and

WHEREAS, the Chuckanut Health Foundation, in partnership with PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center, Family Care Network, Northwest Medical Society, Whatcom Emergency Medical Services and many other community members and organizations have launched "Stand up to Stroke: Act FAST," a Whatcom County Stroke Awareness Campaign; and

NOW, THEREFORE, DO WE, Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, and Jack Louws, Whatcom County Executive, proclaim July 30, 2016, to be

STAND UP TO STROKE: ACT FAST DAY

in the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County.

Signed this 30th day of June, 2016

Kelli Linville, Mayor
City of Bellingham

Jack Louws, Executive
Whatcom County