

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH NOVEMBER 2021

WHEREAS, the incidence of pancreatic cancer has risen with an increase in the average life span and almost always is found in individuals over the age of 45, with about two-thirds of cases occurring in people over the age of 65; and

WHEREAS, there is no standard screening test for pancreatic cancer, and the five-year survival rate is only 9% for all stages of pancreatic cancer, which makes it vital for people to know the signs and symptoms of the disease to help facilitate early diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer symptoms can be vague and may come and go, differing in severity from person to person, and may include abdominal and mid-back pain, loss of appetite, yellow skin or eyes, unexplained weight loss, digestive issues, change in stool and new onset diabetes; and

WHEREAS, an individual should speak with her or his health care provider as soon as possible if any symptoms are experienced; and

WHEREAS, a major risk factor associated with pancreatic cancer is family history, as the risk increases if there is a history of familial breast, ovarian or colon cancer, familial melanoma or hereditary pancreatitis; and

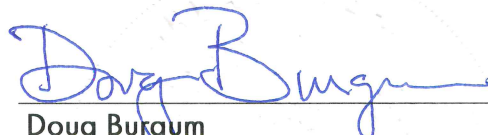
WHEREAS, aside from advanced age, smoking and obesity are the main risk factors for pancreatic cancer; a smoker is twice as likely as a nonsmoker to get the disease, and cigar and pipe smoking also increase the risk, as does the use of smokeless tobacco products; and

WHEREAS, no single method of quitting works for everyone, and NDQuits offers several free options that include free counseling, advice and support and free nicotine replacement products for those who qualify; and

WHEREAS, increased awareness about the symptoms and risks of pancreatic cancer and the main risk factors of pancreatic cancer enhances the good health and well-being of North Dakotans.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
November 2021, PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE