



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, ovarian cancer is the 5th leading cause of cancer death among women in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 21,000 women will develop ovarian cancer this year, and 14,000 women will lose their battle with this deadly cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, when ovarian cancer is detected at early stage, over 90 percent of patients will survive 5 years or more; and

**WHEREAS**, less than 20 percent of women are diagnosed at the early stages of the disease due to lack of awareness of the early warning signs and symptoms, and lack of a reliable screening test (a Pap test is not a test for ovarian cancer); and

**WHEREAS**, many people are unaware of the symptoms of ovarian cancer and women should contact their healthcare professional if the following symptoms are new or unusual, and persist for more than a few weeks: Bloating/increased abdominal size, pelvic/abdominal pain, feeling full quickly/lack of appetite, and urgent/frequent urination; and

**WHEREAS**, a family history (on either father's or mother's side of family) of ovarian, breast, colon, or uterine cancer may put a woman at increased risk; and

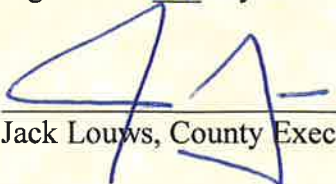
**WHEREAS**, Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month honors those we have lost, shows our support for women who bravely carry on the fight, increases awareness about ovarian cancer, and spotlights the need for continued research for new and better ways to prevent, detect, and treat this devastating disease;

**NOW, THEREFORE, do I**, Whatcom County Executive Jack Louws, do hereby proclaim September 2015, as

### OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in Whatcom County and I encourage all citizens in our county to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 31<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2015.

  
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Jack Louws, County Executive

