WHEREAS older adults have helped to build this province and continue to contribute throughout their lives and are valued and important persons; and

WHEREAS falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths and hospitalizations among older adults in Manitoba, and nationally between 20 and 30 per cent of seniors experience one or more falls each year; and

WHEREAS injuries from a fall can frequently result in long-term disability, chronic pain, loss of independence and a reduced quality of life; and

WHEREAS almost one-third (30 per cent) of Manitoba’s $1.2 billion spending on injury was incurred due to fall injuries with $265 million spent on direct health care costs in 2010; and

WHEREAS many falls can be prevented; and

WHEREAS there are various resources available to help older adults prevent a fall, including www.gov.mb.ca/health/epi/injury/falls.html and through the Age-Friendly Manitoba Initiative that support older adults to lead active, independent lives that contribute to healthy aging; and

WHEREAS November is recognized nationally as Fall Prevention Month and organizations across Canada are encouraged to participate by planning initiatives and sharing evidence-based information on fall prevention; and

WHEREAS this year’s national theme, “It takes a community to prevent a fall: We all have a role to play” is being adopted for the Fall Prevention Week for Older Adults in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living, regional health authorities, organizations and individuals across many sectors support the prevention of falls and are working together to increase awareness of this issue; and

WHEREAS the week of November 5 to 11, 2018, has been declared as Fall Prevention Week for Older Adults to raise awareness about fall prevention and to encourage leadership and collaboration throughout the province;

Now therefore be it resolved that I, Cameron Friesen, Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living for the Province of Manitoba, do hereby proclaim the week of November 5 to 11, 2018, as

Fall Prevention Week for Older Adults

in Manitoba, and do commend its thoughtful recognition to all citizens of our province.