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City of Vaughan - Clerk's Office
2141 Major MacKenzie Drive
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

March 12, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Please find attached the Request for Proclamation for the upcoming World Autism Awareness Day that we will be celebrating on April 2, 2019

Autism Ontario is the leading source of information and referral on autism and one of the largest collective voices representing the autism community. Members are connected through a volunteer network of chapters throughout the Province of Ontario.

We are guided by a Board of Directors, composed primarily of parents of individuals with autism, plus a host of volunteers and respected professionals who provide expertise and guidance to the organization on a volunteer basis.

Autism Ontario is dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism, their families and the professional with whom they interact. The association and its chapters share common goals of providing information and education, supporting research and advocating for programs and services for the autism community.

Our York Region chapter proudly serves 11,000 individuals with autism and their families living in the region. We would like to count the City of Vaughan as a community partner that will join us in a flag raising.

Please let us know if you require any additional information from us.

Regards, 

Sarah Shaw & Rahila Chughtai
Chair; Raise the Flag Campaign
Autism Ontario York Region
[York Region - Autism Ontario](http://YorkRegion-AutismOntario.com)

PROCLAMATION

I, Mayor Bevilacqua of the City of Vaughan, do hereby proclaim April 2 as World Autism Awareness Day

Whereas: World Autism Awareness Day will be recognized on April 2, 2019 in Canada, thanks to Liberal Senator Jim Munson's Bill S-206, *An Act Respecting World Autism Awareness Day*; and

Whereas: Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) affects more than 100,000 Ontarians. Autism Spectrum Disorder is now recognized as the most common neurological disorder affecting 1 in every 94 children, as well as their friends, family and community; and

ASD is a spectrum disorder, which means it not only manifests itself differently in every individual in whom it appears, but its characteristics will change over the life of each individual as well. A child with ASD will become an adult with ASD; and

Autism Ontario (formerly Autism Society Ontario) is the leading source of information and referral on autism and one of the largest collective voices representing the autism community. Since 1973, Autism Ontario has been providing support, information and opportunities for thousands of families across the province; and

Whereas: Autism Ontario is dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals with whom they interact. The association and its chapters share common Goals of providing information and education, supporting research, and advocating for programs and services for the autism community; and

Therefore I, Mayor Bevilacqua, hereby declare April 2nd as World Autism Awareness Day.

Dated at Vaughan, Ontario this 2nd day of April, 2019