

# Council Report

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**DATE:** Tuesday, March 21, 2023

**WARD(S):** ALL

**TITLE:** PROCLAMATION REQUESTS  
BE A DONOR MONTH AND INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY  
WEEK (IDSW)

**FROM:**

Effie Lidakis, Acting Deputy City Manager, Legal and Administrative Services & City Solicitor

**ACTION:** DECISION

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**Purpose**

To seek approval for the proclamation requests received for BeADonor Month and International Dark Sky Week (IDSW).

**Report Highlights**

- Respond to the request received from Ontario Health (Trillium Gift of Life Network) for a proclamation for the month of April.
- Respond to the request received from the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) for a proclamation for a week in April.

**Recommendations**

1. That April 2023 be proclaimed as “BeADonor Month”;
2. That the week of April 15 – April 22, 2023, be proclaimed as “International Dark Sky Week (IDSW)”;
3. That the proclamations be posted on the City’s website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote the above-noted proclamations through the various corporate channels.

## **Background**

### **BeADonor Month**

Ontario Health (Trillium Gift of Life Network) is responsible for delivering and coordinating organ and tissue donation and transplantation services across the province, as well as for planning, promoting and supporting all health care and allied professionals, advocates and the Ontario public in fulfilling their shared and integrated responsibilities in saving the lives of Ontarians waiting for a life-saving transplant.

BeADonor Month occurs every April across Ontario. This is an initiative to raise awareness surrounding organ and tissue donation and transplantation.

### **International Dark Sky Week (IDSW)**

The IDA is a globally recognized authority on light pollution and has created International Dark Sky Week (IDSW) to raise awareness on light pollution and provide education, resources, and solutions to the public to encourage the protection of and enjoyment of dark skies and responsible lighting.

According to information provided by the IDA, light pollution has far-reaching consequences that are harmful to all living things. Effective outdoor lighting reduces light pollution, leading to a better quality of life. The dark sky movement is working to bring better lighting options to communities around the world.

## **Previous Reports/Authority**

Not applicable.

## **Analysis and Options**

### **BeADonor Month**

The proclamation request meets the requirements of the City's Proclamation Policy, as follows:

- 2.1. For the purposes of section 2, a proclamation may be issued for:
  - 2.1.4. Public awareness campaigns

### **International Dark Sky Week (IDSW)**

The proclamation request meets the requirements of the City's Proclamation Policy, as follows:

- 2.1. For the purposes of section 2, a proclamation may be issued for:
  - 2.1.4. Public awareness campaigns

## **Financial Impact**

There is no financial impact expected in regard to these requests.

## **Operational Impact**

As a result of the recommendations in this report being approved, the Corporate and Strategic Communications department will be directed to promote the above-noted proclamations through the various corporate channels.

## **Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations**

Not applicable.

## **Conclusion**

Having reviewed these requests, staff is recommending that April 2023 be proclaimed as “BeADonor Month”; that the week of April 15 – April 22, 2023 be proclaimed as “International Dark Sky Week (IDSW)”; and, that the proclamations be posted on the City’s website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote the above-noted proclamations through the various corporate channels.

**For more information**, please contact: Todd Coles, city Clerk, ext. 8281

## **Attachments**

1. Correspondence from Ontario Health (Trillium Gift of Life Network), received on February 21, 2023
2. Correspondence from the IDA, received on March 9, 2023

## **Prepared by**

Julia Bartolomeo, Supervisor, City Clerk’s Administrative Services, ext. 8280

## **Approved by**



Effie Lidakis  
Acting Deputy City Manager, Legal and  
Administrative Services & City Solicitor

## **Reviewed by**



Nick Spensieri, City Manager