

Committee of the Whole (2) Report

DATE: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 **WARD(S):** ALL

TITLE: PROCLAMATION REQUESTS
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS DAY IN THE CITY OF VAUGHAN,
GBS/CIDP AWARENESS MONTH AND WORLD PRIMARY
IMMUNODEFICIENCY WEEK

FROM:

Wendy Law, Deputy City Manager, Legal and Administrative Services & City Solicitor

ACTION: DECISION

Purpose

To seek approval for the proclamation requests received for Multiple Sclerosis Day in the City of Vaughan, GBS/CIDP Awareness Month, and World Primary Immunodeficiency Week.

Report Highlights

- Respond to the request received from My MS Family for a proclamation.
- Respond to the request received from GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada for a proclamation.
- Respond to the request received from ImmUnity Canada for a proclamation.

Recommendations

1. THAT May 10, 2023, be proclaimed as “Multiple Sclerosis Day in the City of Vaughan;
2. THAT May be proclaimed as “GBS/CIDP Awareness Month”;
3. That April 22 to April 29, 2023, be proclaimed as “World Primary Immunodeficiency Week” and that Council ratify this recommendation at the Council meeting of April 25, 2023; and,

4. 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

Multiple Sclerosis Day in the City of Vaughan

The mission of My MS Family is to bring awareness and support to those living with Multiple Sclerosis in the York Region community.

Council has previously granted this request for proclamation.

The organization has also requested a flag raising event to bring further awareness to this cause, which has been approved by the City Clerk as per the City's Flag Raising Policy.

GBS/CIDP Awareness Month

The month of May has been internationally designated as "GBS and CIDP Awareness Month" – GBS stands for Guillain-Barre Syndrome, and CIDP stands for Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy. The GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada is working to educate the public and focus attention on these rare conditions, as well as advocating for access to diagnosis and appropriate treatment for those who have these conditions.

Council has previously granted this request for proclamation.

World Primary Immunodeficiency Week

ImmUnity Canada's vision is that all Canadians with immunodeficiency disorders have access to the resources they need to thrive. The organization is raising awareness of this vision with their campaign, "Invisible No More". Proclaiming World Primary Immunodeficiency Week is an opportunity for ImmUnity Canada to inform and educate health policymakers, schools, families, workplaces and the general public about primary immunodeficiencies, in order to drive the earliest possible diagnosis and optimal treatment.

Previous Reports/Authority

Multiple Sclerosis Day in the City of Vaughan & GBS/CIDP Awareness Month

[Committee of the Whole \(2\) - April 12, 2022](#)

Analysis and Options

Multiple Sclerosis Day in the City of Vaughan

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

GBS/CIDP Awareness 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

World Primary Immunodeficiency Week

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

None.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

None.

Conclusion

Having reviewed the requests, staff is recommending that May 10, 2023 be proclaimed as "Multiple Sclerosis Day in the City of Vaughan, that May be proclaimed as "GBS/CIDP Awareness Month", that April 22 to April 29, 2023 be proclaimed as "World Primary Immunodeficiency Week" and that Council ratify this recommendation at the Council meeting of April 25, 2023, 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 My MS Family, received on January 31, 2023

2. Correspondence from GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada, received on February 17, 2023
3. Correspondence from ImmUnity Canada, received on March 23, 2023

Prepared by

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

Approved by



Wendy Law
Deputy City Manager, Legal and
Administrative Services & City Solicitor

Reviewed by



Nick Spensieri, City Manager