

Subject:

FW: Request for Proclamation

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From: Michaël Robach [<mailto:mrobach@phacanada.ca>]

Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 2:34 PM

To: Access Vaughan - VOL <accessvaughan@vaughan.ca>

Subject: Request for Proclamation

To whom this may concern,

I am writing to request a proclamation from the City of Vaughan to declare the month of November 2018 as Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month.

Pulmonary Hypertension (PH) is a very complex and serious lung disease, which is progressive and potentially fatal. It can strike anyone regardless of age, sex, social, or ethnic background. In Pulmonary Hypertension (which means high blood pressure in the lungs), the arteries of the lungs become narrowed and scarred, which can result in the almost complete closing of the arteries.

PH shares a number of its symptoms with other conditions, resulting in many people being misdiagnosed. Without treatment, the average life expectancy of someone with PH is less than three years. Alarming, many patients spend two to three years seeking an accurate diagnosis. It is estimated that approximately 5,000 Canadians have been diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension, but as many as 10,000 may be affected by the condition. While there is currently no cure for PH, thanks to available treatments, many patients are living longer, healthier lives.

Celebrated annually throughout the month of November, PH Awareness Month is an international event. Our small non-profit organization works to help support those living or affected by this difficult disease in Canada through education, support, research, and better access to life-saving treatments.

By raising awareness of pulmonary hypertension throughout November, we hope to achieve two things: bring hope to all of the Canadians who suffer from this merciless and often terminal disease. And also bring attention to the need for earlier diagnosis, so that newly diagnosed patients can have a better chance of survival.

I hope you will consider my request to have Vaughan officially declare the month of November 2018 as PH Awareness Month. Rare diseases get very little attention and are usually very difficult to diagnose, so even a proclamation and information in media can shed some light and promote discussion among medical professionals and citizens, with the hope of earlier diagnosis for those affected by this life-threatening illness.

For more information about PH and this request, please feel free to contact me directly.

Kind Regards,



Michael Robach

Communications & Engagement Coordinator
Coordonnateur, communications et communauté

604-682-1036 ext 102
1-877-774-2226 ext 102

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