| From: | Ellen Contardi |
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| To: | Coles, Todd |
| Cc: | Leung, Isabel; Gouzvaris, Shari; David Di Benedetto; Michelle De Buono; Laura Webb |
| Subject: | [External] Proclamation Request Autism Awareness Month |
| Date: | February-24-21 12:56:43 PM |
| Attachments: | image001.png |

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Dear Mr. City Clerk,

In 2016, Waves of Changes for Autism was created to bring hope and relief to Vaughan families dealing with the daily struggles of raising a child with autism. It is through these challenges that undoubtedly exist both emotionally, physically and financially that fuel this dedicated team to put their efforts towards this charity, Waves of Changes for Autism - a registered not-for-profit charity. This charity is completely volunteer-run and fiercely passionate about supporting families living in Vaughan with Autism. The charity aids children aged 13 and under. Their goal is to assist as many families as possible in the community financially with the costs incurred for specialized treatment and programs.

Despite the challenges of Covid-19, our dedicated team of volunteers continue to help Vaughan families affected by the financial hardships of raising a child with autism. We remain fiercely committed to advocating on behalf of these children and families, including raising awareness within our community and among our government partners, like the City of Vaughan.

We thank Mayor Bevilacqua and Members of Council for their past, and continued generosity and support to bring awareness and ensure the City moves forward without leaving anyone behind.

Waves of Changes for Autism, in collaboration with Autism Ontario (York Chapter), respectfully request that City of Vaughan Council proclaim the month of April as Autism Awareness Month and acknowledge April 2 as Autism Awareness Day, annually, through a flag raising ceremony and illumination of Council Chambers in blue at Vaughan City Hall annually on April 2.

I look forward to working with the City and Members of Council to generate further awareness of this important issue affecting Vaughan families.

Stay Safe, Ellen Contardi, President Waves of Changes for Autism



Waves of Changes for Autism

260 Edgeley Blvd., Unit 32 Concord, Ontario L4K 3Y4

www.wavesofchanges.ca CCDR# 80130 8743 RR0001 WOCFA

Waves of Changes for Autism truly believes that change lies in serving families individually