



Lisa Day
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Dear City Clerk Barbara McEwan,

My name is Lisa Day and I am the communications and fund development coordinator at the Alzheimer Society of York Region (AS York). For the second year in a row, AS York is participating in a province-wide initiative titled "Go Blue for Alz" on Sept. 21, World Alzheimer's Day. Go Blue for Alz is when landmarks across the province will be lit up blue, the colour of the Alzheimer Society in Canada, in order to honour and raise awareness about people impacted by dementia. AS York is asking municipalities across York Region to light up a landmark blue in support of the more than 17,000 York Region residents who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias (ADOD) and for the 10 to 12 people who are directly impacted by a diagnosis.

By lighting up blue, the City of Vaughan is raising awareness about ADOD, and family, friends and neighbours impacted by this fatal disease. While not a normal part of aging, age is the No. 1 risk factor for developing ADOD. Currently, there is no cure.

In addition, we would love for the City of Vaughan to again proclaim Sept. 21 as World Alzheimer's Day. By proclaiming this day, the City is showing its residents the importance of talking about ADOD. By talking about the disease, we are showing fellow Vaughan residents people are more than their diagnosis and with the right support, they can be contributing members of the community for a long time.

The Alzheimer Society of York Region has been helping people impacted by ADOD since 1985. It offers public education, support groups, social workers and three DAY programs, that offer dementia-specific programs for people diagnosed with the disease and respite for their caregivers.

Please let me know if you require any other information about ADOD, going blue for Alzheimer's and proclaiming World Alzheimer's Day on Sept. 21.

Sincerely,
Lisa Day