



Toll-Free : 1-800-268-7582
mscanada.ca

April 12, 2023

White Rock City Hall
15322 Buena Vista Ave
White Rock BC V4B 1Y6

Dear White Rock City Council:

MS Canada (formerly MS Society of Canada) is asking the City of White Rock to officially declare the month of May as *MS Awareness Month*. This declaration will significantly raise public awareness of the disease and its effects on 90,000 Canadians living with MS, plus the work of MS Canada to connect and empower the MS community to create positive change.

MS Canada serves people affected by multiple sclerosis. MS is unpredictable and may cause symptoms such as extreme fatigue, lack of coordination, weakness, tingling, impaired sensation, vision problems, bladder problems, cognitive impairment and mood changes. Its effects can be physical, emotional and financial. Currently there is no cure, but each day researchers are learning more about what causes MS and are zeroing in on ways to prevent it.

We are here to help. No one needs to face MS alone. In communities across Canada, MS Canada provides information, support, education and other resources for people living with MS and their families. Approximately 1 in every 400 Canadians live with MS and on average, 12 Canadians are diagnosed with MS every day. Canada has one of the highest incidence rates of MS in the world and most of us know somebody who is affected by the disease.

Attached is the Proclamation document for your consideration and we thank you in advance for helping to recognize May 2023 as *MS Awareness Month*. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Wilson
MS Ambassador

Enclosure

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis is a chronic, often disabling neurological disease affecting an estimated 1 in 400 Canadians and approximately 90,000 across the country; and

WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis symptoms vary widely and may lead to problems with numbness, coordination, vision and speech, as well as extreme fatigue and even paralysis; and

WHEREAS, there is no known cause of, prevention of, or cure for multiple sclerosis; and

WHEREAS, MS Canada is the only national organization in Canada that supports both MS research and services for people with MS and their families; and

WHEREAS, annual fundraising events such as the MS Walk, MS Bike, and A & W Canada's *Burgers to Beat MS* campaign support programs to enhance the lives of people affected by multiple sclerosis and their families and support MS research in Canada; and

WHEREAS, since 1948, MS Canada has contributed over \$200 million towards MS research; and is grateful for the dedication and commitment of its supporters and volunteers that has made this possible; and

WHEREAS, together we will find ways to connect and empower the MS community to create positive change and see a world free of multiple sclerosis

NOW, THEREFORE, I Megan Knight, Mayor of the City of White Rock of the Province of BC] Canada, do hereby proclaim this month of May 2023 to be MS Awareness Month for MS Canada.

(signature)