

Huntington Society of Canada
HUNTINGTON
 Société Huntington du Canada

March 23, 2016

The Honourable Barb Desjardins
 City of Esquimalt
 1229 Esquimalt Road
 Esquimalt, BC V9A 3P1

DECLARATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT
 Mayor/Council
 APR 11 2016
 Arja
 For Response
 Council Agenda

Dear Mayor Desjardins,

May 2016 will be recognized as Huntington Awareness Month. Huntington disease (HD) is a debilitating brain disorder that does not currently have a cure. About one in every 7,000 Canadians has HD and approximately one in every 5,500 is at-risk of developing the disease. Many more are touched by HD as a caregiver, family member or friend. HD causes cells in specific parts of the brain to die. The disease leads to incapacitation and, eventually, death. It is likened to experiencing the symptoms of Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and schizophrenia all in one disease.

To help generate awareness, volunteers across the country are asking mayors to join us in this declaration. Huntington Awareness Month reflects the Huntington Society of Canada's mission, which is to aspire to a world free from HD. The Society strives to: maximize the quality of life of people living with HD by delivering services; enable others to understand the disease; and further research to slow and to prevent HD. The Society works with health and social services professionals to enable them to better serve people living with HD.

As your constituent, I am taking this opportunity to be proactive and empower myself to do something positive about Huntington disease. I ask that you help me raise awareness of this serious and debilitating condition by issuing a proclamation declaring May 2016 Huntington Disease Awareness Month.

The Huntington Society of Canada (HSC) is a respected leader in the worldwide effort to end Huntington disease. HSC is the only Canadian health charity dedicated to providing help and hope for families dealing with HD across Canada.

Please help draw attention to this devastating disease. Help the citizens of Esquimalt learn about the importance of increasing funding for research and services in our local area. Please formally proclaim May 2016 as Huntington Awareness Month in Esquimalt. I would also like to request that the Huntington Society of Canada flag be flown outside City Hall during the second week of May.

Respectfully Submitted,

Geri Stewart

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