

January 24, 2013

Mr. Bill Fisch, Chairman and CEO
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1



Dear Chair Fisch:

Re: National Access Awareness Week - June 2-8, 2013

I am writing on behalf of the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee to formally request that York Regional Council endorse June 2 to June 8, 2013, as National Access Awareness Week in The Regional Municipality of York. If approved, it is also requested that the Regional Clerk forward this letter to the Councils and Accessibility Advisory Committees of local municipalities for their information and consideration.

York Region strives to meet the accessibility needs of people with disabilities in a timely and proactive manner. Providing equitable access to Regional services and facilities in a way that respects the dignity and independence of all people is an organizational commitment.

Since 2005, Regional Council has affirmed this commitment by recognizing National Access Awareness Week with the community. York Region plans National Access Awareness Week activities in partnership with the Municipal Staff Reference Group which includes accessibility professionals from York Region, York Regional Police, local municipalities, hospitals and school boards.

National Access Awareness Week was established in 1988 in response to a request from Rick Hansen following his Man in Motion World Tour. Its aim is to bring together, in a spirit of partnership, people with disabilities, organizations who serve them, business, labour and governments to affect meaningful changes in the daily living of people with disabilities.

York Region reflects these ideals in its strategic direction to foster inclusive and accessible communities. National Access Awareness Week offers an opportunity to celebrate the work that is being done across the Region to make programs and services more accessible for everyone.

Sincerely,

Regional Councillor Vito Spatafora
Chair, York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee

Copy to: Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk
Adelina Urbanski, Commissioner of Community and Health Services
York Region Municipal Staff Reference Group