



Honorary Patron:

The Hon. David C. Onley
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

**Lupus Foundation
of Ontario**

June 22, 2011

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Ridgeway ON L0S 1N0
(800) 368-8377 ON Only
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Website: www.vaxxine.com/lupus
Serving Ontario since 1977 (Inc.)

Mayor & Council Members
Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket ON L3Y 6Z1

Re: **"October is Lupus Awareness Month"**

Dear Mayor & Council Members:



Lupus Foundation of Ontario has been serving the citizens of Ontario for the past 35 years. During this time, we have noticed an alarming increase in the numbers of those seeking information for their health concerns. Many requests are from parents of young children and adolescents who have been positively diagnosed with systemic lupus.

We receive no funding from governmental sources and we have found that our public awareness campaigns are most efficient through our grass roots initiatives.

We would like to request that you:

- Read our Proclamation during a Council meeting to inform everyone in your community that lupus is a serious illness that, unfortunately, is still an unknown to many.
- Hold a flag-raising with our lupus flag. Any date or month would allow for visibility and recognition of the word 'lupus'.
- Place our Proclamation on your community website for those seeking a diagnosis and information about their symptoms.
- Sign and return the Proclamation to our office for display.

There are many Ontarians who have been diagnosed with lupus throughout our province. By reading our Proclamation during your meeting and by declaring **"October as Lupus Awareness Month"**, you will greatly assist our Foundation in educating all citizens that our Foundation exists and that help is just a telephone call away.

Your assistance with this awareness initiative will allow us to help others to help themselves. Thank you.

Very truly yours,


Kathy Crowhurst



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Whereas, lupus is an autoimmune disease that can cause severe damage to the tissue and organs in the body and, in some cases, death; and

Whereas, more than five million people worldwide suffer the devastating effects of this disease and each year over a hundred thousand young women, men and children are newly diagnosed with lupus, the great majority of whom are women of childbearing age; and

Whereas, medical research efforts into lupus and the discovery of safer, more effective treatments for lupus patients are under-funded in comparison with diseases of comparable magnitude and severity; and

Whereas, many physicians worldwide are unaware of symptoms and the health effects of lupus, causing people with lupus to suffer for many years before they obtain a correct diagnosis and medical treatment; and

Whereas, there is a deep, unmet need worldwide to educate and support individuals and families affected by lupus; and

Whereas, there is an urgent need to increase awareness in communities worldwide of the debilitating impact of lupus;

Now, Therefore, Be it resolved that October 2011 is hereby designated as “**October is Lupus Awareness Month**” when lupus organizations around the world call for increases in public and private sector funding for medical research on lupus, targeted education programmes for health professionals, patients and the public, and worldwide recognition of lupus as a significant public health issue.

Dated

Signed

(To receive information about lupus, or to make a donation that will be used for much-needed research funding or public awareness initiatives, please contact **Lupus Foundation of Ontario** at 800-368-8377.) “**Walk for Lupus**” takes place every May throughout Ontario.