



September 7, 2016

To the Attention of: Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Council

Greetings from the Recovery Awareness Day (RAD) Hamilton planning committee. Our group is a collective of addiction service providers and individuals with lived experience who bring a powerful message that Recovery from Addiction is Possible.

We are sending an invitation for all members of Council to acknowledge with our community that **September is Recovery Awareness Month**. Across Canada, we are striving to build awareness, challenge social stigma and celebrate the role that recovery plays in improving lives for individuals, families and communities. We join this month with communities across our nation to celebrate and support all pathways of recovery. We are happy to note that Hamilton is listed as a participating city at www.recoverydaycanada.com

Hamilton is hosting its 10th annual event on September 28, 2016 with a dinner at Michelangelo's Banquet Centre. (flyer enclosed) Tickets are on sale until September 19, 2016. Past events have hosted growing numbers each year, with over 500 in attendance in recent years. The past media coverage has been valuable at highlighting our cause and the inspiring stories of recovery that unfold every day in our community.

Our hope is that the endorsement of our City Council will allow for the continued growth of this annual event each September. Reducing the stigma around addiction can only benefit our community. It can assist individuals to reach the services and supports needed to change their lives and further the goals of those who are continually striving at their recovery.

Our RAD committee fundraises through the year and seeks community sponsors to allow for an inclusive event, mainly attended by individuals living in or striving for recovery. We provide a showcase for the artistic talents of individuals with lived experience and have recognition awards to highlight some of the amazing efforts and service by women men and youth recovering from addiction.

We would be most appreciative of the support of our City Council in acknowledging and celebrating the fine and challenging work of individuals on a pathway to recovery from their addiction through Recovery Awareness Month and all year long. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurel Whalen-Curran". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laurel Whalen-Curran
Recovery Awareness Day Hamilton
Committee Member