

On May 19, 2012, there will be a Lyme Disease Awareness Walk in Chingaucousy Park, Brampton. May is Lyme Disease Awareness month and all over North America, events and walks will be held. We hope to bring in many supporters, family members and Lyme patients from surrounding areas to take part in our event in Brampton.

We respectfully request that the month of May be declared Lyme Disease Awareness Month, or if that is not possible, that May 19 be declared Lyme Disease Awareness Day in Brampton. Further information about this request and sample wording for a proclamation are provided on the following page.

I have Lyme Disease, was misdiagnosed for three years while being sent for scores of tests and a myriad visits to various doctors and specialists. Now I have to go to the USA to get treatment, like thousands of other Canadian Lyme patients. We are working to raise awareness of this disease which robs parents of their children and people of their lives as they knew it. We need better tests in Canada, doctors to be aware of early diagnosis and immediate treatment for known tick bites, protection for doctors treating the disease and messages posted to raise public awareness.

As the organizer of this local event, we are encouraging everyone to attend the walk and family-friendly activities to show his or her support for people living with diminished capabilities because of this disease; their families, friends, and healthcare providers. This event is an emotional support for Lyme Disease patients, and important information that could help the cure of future patients. Pets and pet owners will also benefit from information at the Awareness Day. The walk is being sponsored by several groups and companies in Peel and Halton Hills, and volunteers from many churches and local groups are lending help and support.

Any funds raised will be donated to the Canadian Lyme Disease Foundation.

Please contact me if you need any additional information. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Marlene Spies

Organizer, Lyme Disease Awareness Day, Brampton, Ontario

Tel: (416)970-8660 Website: www.LymeWalkBrampton.ca

Canadian Lyme Disease Foundation: www.CanLyme.org

Proclamation for Lyme Disease Awareness Month

Whereas, ticks carrying the bacteria *Borrelia burgdorferi* that causes Lyme Borreliosis, Commonly known as Lyme disease continue to spread across Ontario and Canada; and

Whereas, the number of reported cases of Lyme disease in North America continues to increase, yet the Centers for Disease Control estimates that on average there are ten missed cases for every case reported; and

Whereas, Lyme disease is difficult to diagnoses because it imitates other conditions and no reliable laboratory test can prove who is infected or bacterial-free, which often leads to misdiagnosis; and

Whereas, early indicators of infection include flu-like symptoms, characterized by chills, headache, fatigue, muscle and joint aches and swollen lymph nodes; and

Whereas, weeks or months later, patients with untreated or under-treated Lyme disease can suffer from serious, permanent and sometimes life-threatening damage to the brain, joints, heart, eyes, liver, spleen, blood vessels and kidneys. For this reason it is imperative that all who develop this disease receive immediate early treatment; and

Whereas, the best solution to the threat of Lyme disease is to educate people about the seriousness of the illness and the need to practice personal preventive techniques when engaging in outdoor activities, such as frequent tick checks, use of tick repellent and proper tick removal; and

Whereas, the month of May is recognized as Lyme disease Awareness Month.

Now therefore, I Susan Fennell, Mayor of the City of Brampton, Ontario, on behalf of the Brampton City Council, do hereby proclaim May 2012 as **Lyme disease Awareness Month** for the City of Brampton to draw attention to this growing health problem and the importance of early detection and treatment by all residents.

Proclaimed this ____ day of _____, 2012