

**PROCLAMATION REQUEST –  
PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH**

**Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That the month of April 2006 be proclaimed as “**PARKINSON'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH**”; and
- 2) That the proclamation be posted on the City's website, published on the City Page, space permitting, and that staff issue a news release.

**Purpose**

To respond to the request received from the Community Development Coordinator, Toronto Chapter, Parkinson Society Canada.

**Background - Analysis and Options**

The correspondence received from the Community Development Coordinator, Toronto Chapter, Parkinson Society Canada is attached (Attachment #1).

The proclamation request meets one of the requirements of the City's Proclamation Policy, namely, “*which are promoted by an organization that is a registered charity pursuant to Section 248 of the Income Tax Act*”.

The Parkinson Society Canada has requested the City publicize this proclamation to bring awareness of this debilitating neurodegenerative disease to the community. The Corporate Communications Department posts proclamations issued by the City on the City's website under “Events – Proclamations”. Publishing proclamations on the City Page depends on space availability. Corporate Communications will, given sufficient lead-time, issue news releases in support of the proclamation.

**Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007**

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

**Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that the month of April 2006 be proclaimed as “Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month” and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page, space permitting.

**Attachments**

Attachment #1 - Correspondence from the Community Development Coordinator, Toronto Chapter, Parkinson Society Canada

**Report prepared by:**

John D. Leach, City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Leach, City Clerk

**Mauti, Kay**

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**From:** Lucy DiCarlo [Lucy.DiCarlo@Parkinson.ca]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 28, 2006 10:58 AM  
**To:** Leach, John  
**Cc:** johnscaini@rogers.com  
**Subject:** Parkinson Society Canada request re: April Proclamation

<<06 Request for City of Vaughan.doc>>  
Good morning, attached please find a copy of the letter requesting City of Vaughan's support for our April Awareness activities.

Thanks  
Lucy

RECEIVED

FEB 28 2006

CLERK'S DEPT.

Lucy Di Carlo  
Community Development Coordinator  
Toronto Chapter  
Parkinson Society Canada  
4211 Yonge Street, Suite 321  
Toronto, Ontario  
M2P 2A9

Tel.: 416-227-3377/1-800-565-3000, ext. 3377  
Fax: 416-227-1520

E-mail: lucy.dicarlo@parkinson.ca

**April is Parkinson's Awareness Month!** Visit us at [www.parkinson.ca](http://www.parkinson.ca) to contact your local Parkinson Society for details about April Awareness events in your region. **Volunteer** and help us ease the burden and find a cure.

2/28/2006

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FEB 28 2006

CLERK'S DEPT.

January 30, 2006

Mayor Michael Di Biase  
City of Vaughan  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Vaughan, Ontario  
L6A 1T1

Dear Mr. Mayor,

On behalf of the 100,000 Canadians living with Parkinson's disease, I am requesting your help in raising awareness about this debilitating disease by declaring the month of April as "*Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month*" in the City of Vaughan.

Throughout the month of April, Parkinson Society Canada's Central Northern Ontario Region will be fundraising in communities across Ontario, encouraging people to become involved and help ease the burden and find a cure for Parkinson's disease.

As Mayor of your community, I invite you to join the effort to educate your community about this life-altering, horrendous disease. In addition to proclaiming April as "Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month," we would be honoured if you would also lend your support by signing the World Health Organization's *Global Declaration of Rights for People with Parkinson's Disease*.

The Global Declaration was presented to Parkinson Society Canada in 2004, when Canada was the eighth nation to host "World Parkinson Day". And, throughout April, this meaningful document will be traveling to several Ontario communities. **It would mean so much to those members of your community who live with Parkinson's if you would demonstrate your support by signing the Global Declaration.**

Parkinson's disease is a chronic and progressive neurodegenerative illness that slowly but dramatically robs people of their independence over time. For most affected, their minds remain sharp while they endure an ever-changing combination of tremors, slowness, stiffness, balance problems, speech problems, rigid muscles, and pain. Many have difficulty walking, talking, and/or swallowing. Parkinson's Society Canada is a national organization that helps to ease the burden and find a cure through research, education, advocacy and support services to improve the quality of life for those affected by Parkinson's disease.

Thank you for considering our request to proclaim "April as Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month" and to demonstrate your support by signing the Global Declaration of Rights for People with Parkinson's Disease. Enclosed you'll find a copy of Parkinson Society Canada's Proclamation and the WHO's Global Declaration. John Scaini, a local volunteer and person with Parkinson's, will contact you shortly, however, should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 416-227-3377 or by e-mailing [lucy.dicarlo@Parkinson.ca](mailto:lucy.dicarlo@Parkinson.ca).

Regards,

Lucy Di Carlo  
Community Development Coordinator  
Toronto Chapter