

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SEPTEMBER 29, 2009**

**PROCLAMATION REQUEST  
CROHN'S AND COLITIS AWARENESS MONTH – NOVEMBER 2009**

**Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That November 2009 be proclaimed as “Crohn’s and Colitis Awareness Month”; and
- 2) That the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on the City Page Online.

**Contribution to Sustainability**

N/A

**Economic Impact**

N/A

**Communications Plan**

The Corporate Communications Department posts proclamations issued by the City on the City’s website under “Events – Proclamations” and on the City Page Online.

**Purpose**

To respond to the request received from Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of Canada.

**Background - Analysis and Options**

The correspondence received from Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of Canada is attached. (Attachment 1)

The proclamation request meets the City’s Proclamation Policy, as follows:

“That upon request, the City of Vaughan issue Proclamations for events, campaigns or other similar matters:

- (i) which are promoted by any organization that is a registered charity pursuant to Section 248 of the Income Tax Act”

Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis, commonly referred to as inflammatory bowel disease are two debilitating diseases that affect over 200,000 Canadians. Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of Canada hope to gain support, public understanding, and encourage participation during the month of November for the local and national based initiatives in an ongoing effort to make finding a cure for these diseases a reality. Council has in previous years proclaimed Crohn’s and Colitis Awareness Month in November.

**Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan**

This report supports the strategic priorities established by Vaughan Vision 2020, in particular “Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health and Wellness”.

**Regional Implications**

N/A

**Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that November 2009 be proclaimed as "Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Month", and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and on the City Page Online.

**Attachments**

Attachment 1 Correspondence received from Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada, dated August 27, 2009

**Report prepared by:**

Connie Bonsignore, Administrative Assistant to City Clerk

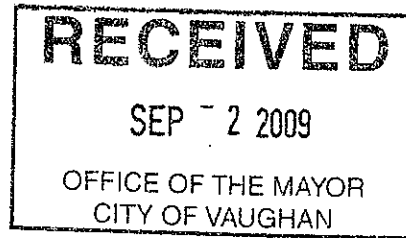
Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams  
City Clerk



Fondation canadienne des  
maladies inflammatoires  
de l'intestin

Crohn's and Colitis  
Foundation of Canada



Attachment 1

August 27, 2009

Mayor Linda Jackson  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Vaughan, ON  
L6A 1T1

Dear Mayor Linda Jackson:

November 2009 is Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Month for Canada and the Crohn's Colitis Foundation of Canada (CCFC). Officially designated by the federal Minister of Health in 2006, Crohn's and Colitis Month is a call to action to advance public understanding of the urgency of finding a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, commonly referred to as inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).

The CCFC Burden of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) in Canada Report reveals that the total cost of IBD in Canada was more than \$1.8 billion in 2008. This cost included \$753 million in direct medical expenses such as hospitalization, surgery and prescription drug therapy and over \$1 billion in indirect expenses such as short term work absences, caregiver expenses and productivity losses from premature deaths.

Canada has among the highest rates of Crohn's and ulcerative colitis in the world and throughout the month of November, the CCFC will be celebrating the courage of some 200,000 men, women and children living with these two debilitating diseases, hoping to encourage Canadians to help make finding a cure for IBD a priority. Currently, there is no cure, no cause and little public understanding of the pain and chronic suffering that IBD patients cope with on a daily basis.

We hope to gain the support of community leaders from coast-to-coast to help educate and encourage Canadian participation during the month of November. ~~We would be most honoured if you, as a leader in the community, would provide a letter of support for the local and national based initiatives and, if possible, continue our efforts to proclaim November as Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Month.~~

Please be sure to visit [www.getgutsymonth.com](http://www.getgutsymonth.com) to learn more about the personal stories and the public events in your community.

We thank you in advance for your consideration. We will follow up with your office in the next few weeks. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (416) 366-7735 ext. 259.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind Regards,

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