

Stephane Cyr

From: Webmaster at ClareNovaScotia.com <noreply@clarenovascotia.com>
Sent: February-22-17 1:16 PM
To: Stephane Cyr
Subject: Municipality of Clare: Lyme Disease Awareness Month, May 2017

This is an enquiry email via <https://www.clarenovascotia.com/> from:
Donna Lugar <donna.lugar@ns.sympatico.ca>

Good afternoon,

I am writing today to request that the Municipality of the District of Clare undertake a Proclamation or Resolution regarding Lyme Disease Awareness Month for May, 2017 (and subsequent years if at all possible).

I have prepared a draft Proclamation, for information purposes and assistance, which I can email to you if you like. I would also be happy to provide you with any additional information that you might require to help facilitate this request.

As I am sure that you are aware, your region is an area of disease carrying black-legged ticks and some of your constituents are dealing with the effects of a bite. As I believe you may also be aware, black-legged ticks are now carrying other illnesses along with, or instead of, Lyme disease. Unfortunately, the pace of awareness and knowledge is not keeping up with the steadily climbing numbers, the various diseases/illnesses that they are carrying, and the range of the ticks. Prevention is the best method of dealing with tick borne diseases at this time; however, to prevent, you have to be aware. I would imagine that many of your residents are aware but you would be amazed at how many in Nova Scotia are not yet aware that disease carrying ticks are an issue in this province.

For your information, there are several initiatives presently taking place in Canada. A Draft Federal Framework on Lyme disease was released on February 7th, with comments being accepted until March 8th. In the opinion of Lyme sufferers the Draft does not adequately respond to the issues at hand, such as long-term disability, adequately trained Doctors, etc. In this regard, there is a Lyme petition underway that has been active only a few days and already has over 18,000 supporters, many of whom are from Nova Scotia and, in particular, your area. The stories that some are posting are heart-breaking.

The following would be links to ongoing initiatives. Any help you could give with any or all would be greatly appreciated:
The Lyme petition - <https://www.change.org/p/minister-philpott-ticking-lyme-bomb-in-canada-fix-canada-s-lyme-action-plan-now>

Consultation on the Draft Federal Framework on Lyme disease - <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/programs/consultation-draft-federal-framework-lyme-disease.html>

A letter writing campaign to the Federal Minister of Health, with copies to the provincial Minister of Health - <http://lymehope.weebly.com/lyme-letters-canada.html>

VOCAL – Voices of Canadians About Lyme – This is a cross-Canada Lyme awareness initiative that will be taking place on Saturday, June 3/17. The Nova Scotia event looks like it will be one not to miss. Because of the caliber of speakers (a Doctor from Maine that has many Nova Scotia patients, a representative of a private lab in the US that tests blood for Lyme and co-infections, Dalhousie University who is doing research on ticks, etc.), we are presently looking for a larger venue so final details have not yet been made. Information can be found on Facebook at - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/657758067709230/> or via me as the Coordinator for the cross-Canada events and one of the organizers of the Nova Scotia event.

Thank you,

Donna Lugar

Nova Scotia Representative, Canadian Lyme Disease Foundation (CanLyme)

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