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Sent: June 15, 2021 2:58 PM

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Subject: Request For Proclamation - World Hepatitis Day - 2021

Greetings

I am contacting you today on behalf of the Niagara Health System-Hepatitis C Care Clinic to make a request for you to proclaim July 28, 2021 World Hepatitis in your municipality. However, I would like to begin by thanking each of you for all that you are doing to support and carry our municipalities through the ongoing global pandemic. Your hard work and dedication for the residents of Niagara is so truly admirable and appreciated! These are unprecedented times and so much of our lives that we knew as normal has changed so much. The Covid-19 virus is in the forefront of all we are doing at this time; but our Team is working hard to raise awareness of World Hepatitis Day-2021, hepatitis and liver health. Unfortunately, our annual World Hepatitis Day community awareness event will not occur again this year. The Hepatitis C Care Clinic's annual community awareness was first held in 2014 and had been growing over the 6 years which we hosted the events throughout Niagara. We were last able to host our community awareness day in 2019, when we had over 600 residents of Niagara that joined us at our World Hepatitis Day event in Montebello Park. With these changing times, we are looking at other ways to bring support to the residents of Niagara that will follow the re-opening guidelines outlined by the Provincial Government. We are planning smaller events around the Niagara Region for an opportunity for individuals to be tested for hepatitis and HIV, to allow our Team to provide information to individuals about the hepatitis C, the treatment journey, the care and services of our program.

The Niagara Health System-Hepatitis C Care Clinic is a specially funded program through the Ministry of Health-Hepatitis C Secretariat and we work with individuals that may/could fall between the cracks of our health and social services network. Our Outreach Team meets with our clients where they are the most comfortable. We know how much Covid-19 has affected our lives and it has greatly impacted the lives of the most vulnerable in Niagara. Those who struggle with addiction, mental health, homelessness and a multitude of other concerns that affect their social determinants of health. Our program's multidisciplinary Team is providing modified clinic appointments based on individual needs and outreach services to provide care for the residents of Niagara to meet with them where they feel the most comfortable. The care we are providing are supportive services, individual and virtual education sessions, hepatitis and HIV testing and supporting clients to prepare them for hepatitis C treatment and support when on treatment.

We will not be able to meet with you at our World Hepatitis Day community event again this year, but we would like to share with you more about our program. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or require additional information.

Hope you have a lovely day!

Take care and stay safe!

Karen

Karen Usick – Reg. N

Hepatitis C Care Clinic | Community Coordinator

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HCCC Website Address - www.niagarahealth.on.ca/site/hepatitis-c-care

NHS Addiction Services - www.niagarahealth.on.ca/services/addiction-recovery



#HepCantWait | #WorldHepatitisDay | #NoHep

WORLD HEPATITIS DAY

July 28th, 2021

WHEREAS, over 194,000 Canadians living with hepatitis C and approximately 380,710 living with hepatitis B can potentially develop cirrhosis, liver failure, liver cancer and related illnesses;

WHEREAS, Ontario has over 110,000 people living with hepatitis B or C, both of which are slow and progressive diseases; and

WHEREAS, there are vaccines available for Hepatitis A and B; emerging Hepatitis C treatment therapies can cure over 95% of cases; and

WHEREAS, World Hepatitis Day provides an opportunity to reach out to millions of Canadians and encourage hepatitis testing, provide treatment and care for those affected while paving the way towards elimination of hepatitis as a public health concern in Canada by 2030;

THEREFORE, I, Bill Steele, Mayor of the City of Port Colborne, do hereby proclaim **July 28th, 2021 World Hepatitis Day** in Port Colborne.

JOURNÉE MONDIALE CONTRE L'HÉPATITE

Le 28 juillet 2021

ATTENDU QUE, au Canada, quelque 194 000 personnes vivant avec l'hépatite C et environ 380 710 personnes vivant avec l'hépatite B risquent de développer une cirrhose, une insuffisance hépatique, un cancer du foie et des maladies connexes;

ATTENDU QUE l'Ontario compte plus de 110 000 personnes vivant avec l'hépatite B ou C, deux maladies lentes et progressives; et

ATTENDU QU'il existe des vaccins pour protéger contre l'hépatite A et B et que de nouvelles thérapies de traitement de l'hépatite C peuvent guérir plus de 95 % des cas; et

ATTENDU QUE la Journée mondiale contre l'hépatite est une occasion de joindre des millions de Canadiennes et de Canadiens, d'encourager le dépistage de l'hépatite et de fournir traitements et soins aux personnes touchées tout en ouvrant la voie vers l'élimination de l'hépatite en tant que problème de santé publique au Canada d'ici 2030;

PAR CONSÉQUENT, je, Bill Steele, maire de la Ville de Port Colborne, proclame par la présente le **28 juillet 2021 Journée mondiale contre l'hépatite** à Port Colborne.

Bill Steele
Mayor / Maire