

Region of York  
17250 Yonge Street  
Newmarket, ON  
L3Y 6Z1

**Re: Flag Raising & Proclamation Request for World Down Syndrome Day on March 21, 2021**

Dear Sir or Madam:

For over 24 years the Down Syndrome Association of York Region (DSAYR) has been providing valuable services and promoting a positive image of people with Down Syndrome as being valuable community members. We are a group of parents, individuals with Down Syndrome, educators and community support professionals who firmly believe in the inherent equality of people with Down Syndrome.

World Down Syndrome Day (WSDS), held on March 21<sup>st</sup> each year, is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012. The Province of Ontario has proclaimed March 21<sup>st</sup> as Ontario Down Syndrome Day since 2016.

As such, we are requesting that the Region of York join our celebration by raising the DSAYR's flag from Friday March 19 to Monday March 22, 2021 and proclaiming March 21<sup>st</sup> as "Region of York Down Syndrome Day". We are making a similar request of all nine municipalities in the Region, so that this day can be recognized throughout our communities, in unison. During this pandemic, this is the safest and most effective way for us to promote awareness.

We also ask that the event be promoted via the Region of York's social media mediums as you see fit.

We would greatly appreciate the Region of York's assistance in promoting World Down Syndrome Day on March 21, 2021.

Should our request be approved, we will arrange for delivery of our organization's flag.

The Region of York's support is important to us. Thank you for considering our request. You can contact us at 416-410-DOWN or email us at [info@dsayr.ca](mailto:info@dsayr.ca).

Sincerely,  
*Domenic Gentilini*  
Domenic Gentilini  
President, DSAYR