

Re: Proclamation Request for World Down Syndrome Day, March 21, 2022

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Down Syndrome Association of York Region (DSAYR) is committed to promoting a positive image of people with Down syndrome, as being valued members of our communities. We are a group of parents, individuals living with Down syndrome, educators, and community support professionals who firmly believe in the inherent equality of people with Down syndrome.

World Down Syndrome Day is held on March 21 each year. It is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012. The Province of Ontario first proclaimed March 21 to be Ontario Down Syndrome Day in 2016.

I write today on behalf of the DSAYR to ask that the Region of York join us in celebrating World Down Syndrome Day by proclaiming March 21 to be "York Region Down Syndrome Day". We also ask that the event be promoted via the city's social media as you see fit. We are making similar requests of all nine municipalities in York Region. Since the pandemic, we feel this has become a wonderful way for the community at large to learn about Down syndrome and to celebrate in unison all across York Region.

We would greatly appreciate the Region of York assistance in promoting World Down Syndrome Day on March 21st.

Thank you for considering our request. You may contact us at 416-410-DOWN or email us at info@dsayr.ca.

Sincerely,

Giovanna Arduini-Arcella Giovanna Arduini-Arcella President, DSAYR