



The Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia
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January 29, 2019

Mayor Ann Seamans
Municipality of the County of Riverview
30 Honour House Court
Riverview, New Brunswick
E1B 3Y9

Dear Mayor Seamans,

The Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia (EANS) was created in 1980. For 39 years we have provided service, support and programming for all persons who live with epilepsy, their families and their communities in all three Maritime Provinces. In the coming months, we will be changing our name to Epilepsy Association of the Maritimes (EAM) to better reflect the provinces we serve.

The Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia is reaching out to all Maritime Provinces to support Purple Day, March 26th. This is Purple Day's 11th Anniversary and we hope that all Municipalities, Towns and Cities participate.

Purple Day was founded by Cassidy Meagan, an eight-year-old girl who wanted one day in every year for everyone to learn about epilepsy and support those who live with this neurological condition. On June 28th, 2012, the Government of Canada created the Purple Day Act and received Royal Assent. March 26th is officially recognized as Purple Day in Canada. Working with Cassidy Megan, our organization approached the Anita Kaufman Foundation in the U.S. to make Purple Day a global initiative and we succeeded. It is recognized in over 85 countries and on every continent.

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We are asking every municipality to participate in the month of March (Epilepsy Awareness month) to show support for your constituents who live with epilepsy. We will provide all Council members with purple ribbons. We respectfully request that they be worn throughout the month of March, especially at your monthly March Council Meeting(s) and March 26th. We

would appreciate a photo to be emailed to us and with your permission, we can upload it to our Facebook page and website. Last year we did this and our members from so many communities throughout the Maritimes contacted us and told us how much they appreciated the support from their local political representatives!

EANS provides an educational component that features seizure awareness and seizure first aid. This is provided to schools, teachers, bus drivers and staff, employers, first responders, nursing homes, hospitals, small options, recreation groups and community groups. This educational piece provides a better understanding of this very common neurological condition and also what to do during a seizure and after care. These age appropriate presentations take about an hour and are provided free of charge. They have been vetted by the QEII Health Science Center and the IWK. We also provide scholarships and bursaries to students with epilepsy who pursue post-secondary education; we send a kid to Camp Brigadoon, we provide advocacy and support and have even provided employment support.

Please feel free to contact us at the address below to let us know how many ribbons you require and what your plans are to show support in your community. Also, please kindly let us know when your council meetings are in March and we can provide a proclamation for Purple Day. We have everything in French and English and please specify if you wish one or the other, both and the numbers of each.

Thank you for taking the time to read and respond to our request.

Kindest regards,



Debbi Tobin

Executive Director

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www.epilepsyns.org

www.purpleday.org