



The Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia
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January 29, 2018

Mayor Ann Seamans
Town of Riverview
30 Honour House Court
Riverview, NB E1B 3Y9

Dear Mayor Seamans,

The Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia (EANS) was created in 1980 and for 35 years has provided service and support as well as programming for all persons who live with epilepsy, their families and their communities in the Maritimes.

The Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia is reaching out to all Maritime Municipalities across the provinces to support Purple Day, March 26th. This is Purple Day's 10th Anniversary and we hope all municipalities, towns and cities participate.

Purple Day was founded by Cassidy Meagan, an 8 year old little girl who wanted one day every year where everyone would learn about epilepsy and support those that 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. and together, Purple Day is now a global initiative. It is recognized in over 70 countries and on every continent.

The Epilepsy Association of N.S. is asking every municipality to participate in the month of March, Epilepsy Awareness month and specifically show your support for your constituents who live with epilepsy. We will provide all Council members with purple ribbons and respectfully request that they be worn throughout the month of March, and especially at your monthly March Council Meeting. We would appreciate a photo if at all possible that can be emailed to our address and with your permission we can upload to our Facebook and website. Last year we did this and you would not believe how many people from every community and the surrounding areas that contacted us and told us how much they appreciated your support! We are asking you to show support so that all persons who live with epilepsy in your municipality know that you stand beside them to help increase awareness, promote inclusion and demonstrate support.

EANS provides an educational component that features seizure first aid and other information for employers so that persons living with epilepsy can access and retain employment. There is also an educational program EANS deliver to schools (elementary, junior high, high school and universities/colleges) where they teach epilepsy awareness (recognizing seizure activity), the different types of seizures and what to do if their friend or anyone in their home or community has a seizure. This program is vetted by the Canadian League Against

Epilepsy. In 2017, EANS will be extending our reach further into your community with support services and epilepsy awareness initiatives.

Additionally, because this is Purple Day's 10th anniversary, we will hold our first Purple Day Ambassador conference on June 9th, 2018. This also is an opportunity for your council to recommend anyone in your constituencies who live with epilepsy or a parent who has a child with epilepsy as an ambassador. The conference will be a one-day event and those travelling from 3 hours' drive or more will be invited to stay overnight in a hotel. The conference will have informative sessions for adults, an opportunity to train as an educational consultant in their home area and fun activities for the kids. Kids of all ages and youth will also be given the tools and training how they too can become true ambassadors in their home areas. We are hoping to make this an annual event too.

Please feel free to contact us at the address below to let us know how many ribbons you wish to have and what your plans are to show support in your community. Also include anyone who lives in your area you think would be interested in becoming an ambassador; their name and contact information. We will follow up again with you the end of January if we haven't heard from you to ensure we can send your ribbons in plenty of time for your March meeting.

Kindest regards,



Debbi Tobin
Executive Director
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