February 23rd, 2023

Dear Mayor \_\_\_\_

On behalf of the Lymphedema Association of Ontario (“LAO”) and the lymphedema community, we are requesting, as in previous years, that you proclaim March 6, 2023 as WORLD LYMPHEDEMA DAY in the City of \_\_\_\_\_\_. If it is available, we would also like to request that electronic signage be updated to show this.

Lymphedema is a chronic swelling of a body part caused by an accumulation of lymph fluid. It can result from cancer treatment, surgery, trauma or a genetic deficiency that has affected one’s lymph nodes. Though not curable it can be managed with effective intervention including self-care. If left uncontrolled it can become a debilitating condition. We believe that more than approximately 400,000 Ontario residents currently have lymphedema.

The LAO is a patient-advocacy organization committed to providing resources and information to those affected by lymphedema. The LAO has continued to provide direct information via an info-line to many callers, attended or hosted many educational and awareness events, distributed informational resources and operated a therapist listing that attracts numerous views.

Awareness and knowledge for patients, caregivers and health-care providers, is key to combating this challenging condition. We believe that the impact of your proclamation would be significant. It would help people with lymphedema, as well as those at risk, and unaware of treatment options. It would also recognize the significant burden imposed by this condition on those currently diagnosed as well as their caregivers.

We would advertise your proclamation through various social media platforms such as our newsletter, website, Instagram and Facebook.

Other locations and Provinces have also historically proclaimed this Day and we are hoping you will grant our request by doing the same again this year.

Thank you for considering our request.

Best regards,

Please insert your own name here

Dolores Steinwall

President, Lymphedema Association of Ontario

www.lymphontario.ca

Charitable Organization # 87165 5049 RR0001