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March 28th, 2023

City of Thorold
P.O. Box 1044
3540 Schmon Parkway
Thorold, ON
L2V 4A7
Re: 2023 MS Walk Niagara Region

To: Councilors of the City of Thorold,

MS Canada has submitted a Special Events Application for the upcoming 2023 MS Walk Niagara Region to be held on Sunday May 28th at the Canada Games Park.

MS Walk is a community-driven event that brings awareness and support to the 90,000 Canadians that live with MS. MS Walk is not defined by online or in-person, but by the support and connections made by taking action and participating in MS Walk.

Registration is free and participants will come together in celebration as a community on May 28th across Canada to walk in support of the MS community. During the MS Walk participants will complete up to 5 kms in their respective locations, some inside of parks, on trails or along sidewalks.

For the MS Walk Niagara Region, the participants will be walking within the perimeter of Canada Games Park on the sidewalks. They will check in at 10:00am and opening ceremonies will begin at 11:00am. Lunch will be provided free to participants who have registered, along with water and prepackaged snacks. I am working with the Niagara Region Public Health & Emergency Services to ensure all food services follow local guidelines. An emcee will guide the ceremony and there will be family friendly music during the MS Walk. The celebration will be complete by 3:00pm.

Canada has one of the highest rates of MS in the world. When participants register, fundraise, and participate in MS Walk they are taking meaningful action in supporting people living with MS in Canada and working towards a world free of MS.

Supporting information:

- Over 90,000 Canadians live with MS.
- Approximately 1 in every 400 Canadians live with MS.
- 75% of people in Canada living with MS are women.
- MS is the most common neurological disease affecting young adults in Canada.
- 60% of adults diagnosed with MS are between the ages of 20 and 49 years old. In Canada, 43 is the average age of MS diagnosis.
- On average, 12 Canadians are diagnosed with MS every day.

Thank you for your consideration,

Melanie Skelhorn
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