

June 11, 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford, M.P.P. Premier of Ontario Legislative Building Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

Re: Lyme Disease Awareness Month Our Files: 35.31.99/35.23.12

Dear Premier Ford,

At its meeting held on May 31, 2021, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

"WHEREAS May is Lyme Disease National Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS the City of St. Catharines Strategic Plan includes improving livability for all; and

WHEREAS Niagara Region is a high-risk area for ticks and Lyme Disease, and cases continue to increase; and

WHEREAS Ontario health does not cover treatment and testing for all strains of Lyme Disease; and

WHEREAS Lyme Disease is a crippling disease if not diagnosed and treated appropriately;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the City of St. Catharines call on the Ontario government to expand testing to all strains of Lyme Disease and improve the level of treatment and care for those diagnosed with this crippling disease; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Premier of Ontario, Ontario Minister of Health, local MPPs, Niagara Health, Niagara Region Public Health, all Ontario municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario be sent correspondence of Council's decision; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Mayor bring this matter to the attention of the Niagara Region and request that the Region build an awareness campaign with on-line resources for families with Lyme Disease."



If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1524.

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Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk :mb

cc: Ontario Minister of Health Niagara Area MPPs Niagara Health Niagara Region Public Health Niagara Region Ontario Municipalities Association of Municipalities of Ontario, <u>amo@amo.on.ca</u> Melissa Wenzler, Government Relations Advisor