

**Paula Kusack**

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**Subject:** FW: Request for Proclamation - World PH Day

I am writing to request a proclamation from the City of Langley to declare May 5<sup>th</sup> World PH Day.

Held annually on May 5th, World Pulmonary Hypertension Day raises awareness of PH and celebrates the strength and resilience of the PH community worldwide. It is also an opportunity to highlight new developments in PH research and treatment.

It is estimated that approximately 5,000 Canadians have been diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension, but as many as 10,000 may be affected by the condition. Unfortunately, PH symptoms are similar to other lung and cardiac diseases, making an accurate PH diagnosis difficult. Alarmingly, many patients spend two to three years seeking an accurate diagnosis. Without treatment, the average life expectancy of someone with PH is less than three years. There is currently no cure for PH, however thanks to available treatments, many patients are living longer, healthier lives.

Most Canadians have never heard of the disease until it affects them or someone they know. Unfortunately, this lack public awareness means that pulmonary hypertension is often diagnosed at a very late stage. I am personally affected by pulmonary hypertension. Because of my personal connection to the illness, it's extremely important to me to raise awareness of PH and in doing so, promote earlier diagnosis. To learn more about World PH Day go to [//phacanada.ca/WorldPHDay](http://phacanada.ca/WorldPHDay).

Thank you in advance for considering my request. I look forward to hearing from you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Carl Selzer  
PHACanada  
Volunteer Ambassador  
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[www.phacanada.ca](http://www.phacanada.ca)

"Science is not only compatible with spirituality; it is a profound source of spirituality."  
...Carl Sagan