



PROCLAMATION

GBS/CIDP Awareness Month May 2024

Whereas the month of May has been internationally designated as 'GBS and CIDP Awareness Month' to educate the public and focus attention on Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) and Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP); and

Whereas Guillain-Barré Syndrome, Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy, and their variants such as Multifocal Motor Neuropathy (MMN) are rare conditions characterized by rapid onset of weakness and often paralysis of the legs, arms, breathing muscles and face, and in some cases leading to complete paralysis and requiring life-sustaining care; and

Whereas the cause of GBS, CIDP, and MMN is unknown, and these conditions can develop in any person, regardless of age, gender, or ethnic background; and

Whereas GBS, CIDP, and MMN have a slow and unpredictable recovery and patients and their families face an uncertain future, usually requiring months of hospital care without knowing if or when they will recover or if they will face long-term disabilities. Earlier diagnosis, treatment, and access to rehabilitation services can improve the chances of avoiding permanent residual damage of the nerves; and

Whereas in 2003, the GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada, a patient organization providing support, education, research, and advocacy was founded so that no patient or family would have to go through this alone.

Therefore, I, Mayor Bryan Paterson, on behalf of Kingston City Council, hereby proclaim the month of May 2024 to be "GBS / CIDP Awareness Month" in the City of Kingston

Dated at Kingston this 6th day of March, 2024.

Bryan Paterson
Mayor