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July 13, 2022

Dear Mayor Margaret Quirk,

My name is Keara and I am a resident of York Region and the Foundation Coordinator for the PKD Foundation of Canada. As you may recall, last year you recognized September 4th as National Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) Awareness Day, which the community was tremendously grateful for. I wanted to reach out in hopes that you will recognize this important issue again on September 4, 2022.

Polycystic kidney disease (PKD) is one of the most common, life-threatening genetic diseases. PKD causes abnormal cysts to develop and grow in the kidneys and the enlargement of cysts causes kidney function to decline. **While this is a very serious and irreversible disease affecting approximately 1 in 400 to 1 in 1000 Canadians**, many people outside of the PKD community have never heard of it. This makes it more challenging to get the attention of important decision makers when it comes to funding and research.

The PKD Foundation of Canada aims to promote programs of research, advocacy, education, support and awareness to discover treatments and a cure for polycystic kidney disease, improving the lives of all it affects. Since 2014, Health Canada has officially recognized September 4th as National Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) Awareness Day, bringing much-needed attention to this disease. Being able to leverage this national recognition has had a positive impact on the community and our efforts.

Last year, in addition to your support, we had more than 40 cities and towns across Canada officially support this important day and **we would greatly appreciate if you could once again proclaim September 4, 2022 as National Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) Awareness Day in the Township of Georgina**. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or require more information.

Sincerely,

Keara Johnson  
Foundation Coordinator  
PKD Foundation of Canada  
kjohnson@endpkd.ca

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**Subject:**

FW: National PKD Awareness Day 2022

**From:** Keara Johnson <[kjohnson@endpkd.ca](mailto:kjohnson@endpkd.ca)>**Sent:** August 8, 2022 9:10 AM**To:** Carolyn Lance <[clance@georgina.ca](mailto:clance@georgina.ca)>**Subject:** RE: National PKD Awareness Day 2022

Hi Carolyn,

We are hoping for a flag raising on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, but if the office is closed, Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> would be the next best thing! Please let me know if that date is available. Thankyou!

-Keara

Keara Johnson (*she/her*)  
Foundation Coordinator  
PKD Foundation of Canada  
[www.endpkd.ca](http://www.endpkd.ca)



**PKD FOUNDATION**  
**OF CANADA**

3-1750 The Queensway, Suite 158, Etobicoke ON, M9C 5H5