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TOWN OF MARKHAM
CLERKS DEPT.



August 19, 2008

Mayor Frank Scarpitti 101 Town Centre boulevard Markham, ON L3R 9W3

MIR 20 2008

Dear Mayor Frank Scarpitti:

November 2008 is Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Month for Canada and the Crohn's Colitis Foundation of Canada (CCFC). Officially designated by the federal Minister of Health in 2006, Crohn's and Colitis Month is a call to action to advance public understanding of the urgency of finding a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, commonly referred to as inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).

Canada has among the highest rates of Crohn's and ulcerative colitis in the world and throughout the month of November, the CCFC will be celebrating the courage of some 200,000 men, women and children living with these two debilitating diseases, hoping to encourage Canadians to help make finding a cure for IBD a priority. Currently, there is no cure, no cause and little public understanding of the pain and chronic suffering that IBD patients cope with on a daily basis.

We hope to gain the support of community leaders from coast-to-coast to help educate and encourage Canadian participation during the month of November. We would be most honoured if you, as a leader in the community, would provide a letter of support for the local and national based initiatives and, if possible, formally proclaim November as Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Month.

On November 1, 2008 the CCFC will also launch <u>www.getgutsymonth.com</u>, which will be the first step in asking Canadians to Get Gutsy by leaving their fears behind and sharing personal stories about IBD. The website will be an educational tool, highlighting the world leading Canadian research in IBD and provide information on local events in communities from coast-to-coast. Please be sure to visit this site throughout November to learn more about the personal stories and the public events in your community.

We thank you in advance for your consideration. We will follow up with your office in the next few weeks. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (416) 366-7735 ext. 259.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Ive Balins

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Executive Vice-President

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TOWN OF MARKHAM CLERKS DEPT.

October 15, 2008

To: Mayors and Reeves,

On behalf of the membership of the Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL), we are writing to you to ask that as local elected representatives you endorse November 6, 2008 as a day of recognition for the community social service workers in your community.

The 700,000 members of the Ontario Federation of Labour work in all economic sectors and live in communities across Ontario from Kenora to Cornwall and from Moosonee to Windsor. Our members know that community social service workers are essential to building strong communities and making life better for families and individuals.

The National Union of Public and General Employees (NUPGE) developed the attached resolution, which calls for November 6, 2008 to be proclaimed Community Social Service Workers Appreciation Day.

Please advise us of your participation in this day of recognition, so that we can acknowledge your community's role in celebrating Community Social Service Workers Appreciation Day across Ontario on November 6, 2008. Such information may be sent to Terry Downey, Executive Vice-President, Ontario Federation of Labour, 15 Gervais Drive, Don Mills, Ontario M3C 1Y8, by fax (416) 441-1893 or by e-mail at tdowney@ofl.ca.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Terry Bowney

OFL, Executive Vice-President

TD/em Attachment cope343

cc: W. Samuelson, I. Harris, OFL

OFL Executive Board and Council **OFL Social Services Committee** 

J. Clancy, K. Hawley, NUPGE

## APPRECIATION DAY

Municipal Resolution: DRAFT

## November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008 Community Social Service Workers Appreciation Day

Whereas community social service workers are vital to the quality of life within all Canadian communities; and

Whereas community social service workers provide crucial services to families and children; people with disabilities; respite care; people and families dealing with substance abuse; women and their children in transition houses or sexual assault centres; Aboriginal Peoples: as well as services to new Canadians; and more; and

Whereas the quality of these services depends largely on the dedication of trained workers who provide these services; and

Whereas the availability of these services helps improve the quality of life for everyone, while making our communities stronger and more stable; and

Whereas greater recognition and understanding of the critical role these workers play in our communities are needed to ensure the continued availability and improvement of services; and

Whereas awareness and support for these services begin at the local level;

Now therefore be it resolved that this council proclaims November 6<sup>th</sup> as Community Social Service Workers Appreciation Day.