

Mayor Jim Diodati



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## PROCLAMATION

**Whereas**, Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS) is a chronic, non-communicable, debilitating inflammatory skin disease, characterized by painful skin lesions for which there is no known cure; and

**Whereas**, As many as 4% of men, women and children in Ontario and across Canada are living with HS but may not have a diagnosis due to lack of both patient and physician awareness; and

**Whereas**, HS is a painful, disfiguring, and disabling disease that has an adverse impact on the quality of life of those living with this disease; understanding and compassion for those with HS and timely, proper diagnosis is vital; and

**Whereas**, Treating HS is a challenge for both patients and physicians as everyone responds differently to different treatments; some treatments lose effectiveness over time; many treatments are used in combination with other treatments and all treatments may cause a unique set of side effects; and

**Whereas**, The understanding and acceptance of the general public is an important factor in patients' treatment and health, and HS Awareness Week provides an opportunity to increase awareness, address misconceptions, promote education and support, recognize the struggles of those affected, and shorten the delay in diagnosis; and

**Whereas**, In-person awareness activities are not possible this year, however, support for patients continues during social distancing with support via phone and online and the medical treatment and care for patients continues, both virtually and in person when necessary; and

**Whereas**, HS Heroes is a community for people living with HS dedicated to increasing awareness, educating, and advocating for those whose lives have been affected by the disease, whether a patient, family member, friend, caregiver, or health care professional; and

**Whereas**, Hidradenitis & Me is a support group that facilitates monthly support sessions physically and virtually with the mission to promote self-care and awareness; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** I, James M. Diodati, Mayor, do hereby proclaim June 7 – 13, 2021 as “**Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS) Awareness Week**” in the City of Niagara Falls.



Mayor James M. Diodati  
& Members of City Council  
April 20, 2021