

Mayor and Council,

We are reaching out to request that the Fitzsimmons Covered Bridge be lit pink and blue (PMS Pink 214 C and Navy 3524 C) in March 2025 to support Autoimmune Awareness Month.

Autoimmune diseases impact millions internationally and have been deemed a public health crisis. These diseases are largely understudied and underfunded, taking a toll on patients, families, and the healthcare system. Despite rising incidence rates, it takes roughly 5 years and 5 different doctors for patients to receive a proper diagnosis.

The <u>Autoimmune Association</u> is the world's leading nonprofit organization dedicated to autoimmune disease advocacy, awareness, education, and research. With over 100 diseases, including rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, lupus, Type 1 diabetes, and Hashimoto's, many have been impacted by these conditions but still face stigma and lack of support, which is why it is so important to raise awareness.

In March 2025, our campaign, "Glow of Hope: Shining Light on Autoimmune Disease" will raise awareness for these conditions and help patients know they are not alone in their journeys. Participating buildings will be featured on our social media channels, website, blog, and other tactics, including potential media coverage.

This article in <u>Scientific American</u> describes the urgent need for elevated awareness, and I have attached additional information about the Autoimmune Association and autoimmune disease for your background.

Thank you for your consideration. If there is any other information needed, please let me know and I would be happy to submit it. While we prefer March 1st for the lighting, we would be honored to celebrate with you any time in March..

Best,

Ally Woodard Youth Representative and Lighting Project Organizer ally.woodard@columbia.edu 850-687-7918



Landmark Lighting Request Form

Please complete the form and scan/email to corporate@whistler.ca along with your cover letter addressed "To Mayor and Council" with information regarding your campaign or cause. We will contact you to confirm the status of your request.

Contact Name	
Organization	
Business Address	
City/Province/Postal Code	
Business Phone Number	
Business Email	
Website Address	
Brief description of the event associated with your request - 75 words or less (Information here will be used for communications and the sign on the bridge. RMOW will edit copy if necessary.)	
Optional: Social Media Campaign Title (include hashtags) Landmark Choice	Fitation and Country I Builder
Landinark Choice	☐ Fitzsimmons Covered Bridge
Date of Event	
Colour Request	
Signature:Date:	

This application does not guarantee that your event lighting request will be approved or your date is available.