



January 29, 2020

Mayor Jack Crompton
Office of the Mayor
Municipal Hall
4325 Blackcomb Way
Whistler, BC V8E 0X5

Dear Mayor Jack Crompton:

April is internationally recognized as Parkinson's Awareness Month and I am hoping that the Resort Municipality of Whistler will join with other communities across Canada and issue a proclamation declaring April 2020, Parkinson's Awareness Month.

Your proclamation would assist us with one of our major goals—to increase public awareness of this devastating neurological disorder.

Parkinson's disease (PD) is the second most common degenerative neurological disorder after Alzheimer's, but it receives significantly less attention. It is cruel and unforgiving, causing tremors, rigidity, instability, speech difficulty, and in some cases, depression, anxiety, and dementia. Contrary to popular belief, Parkinson's is not exclusively diagnosed in the senior population. It can affect individuals of all ages and genders, including those in their early twenties, with young children, and at the height of their careers. The debilitating effects of Parkinson's are felt not only by the person with the disease, but their entire family and the broader community. There is currently no known cure.

It is estimated that 13,000 people in British Columbia, 100,000 in Canada, and one million in the US live with PD. The worldwide incidence of Parkinson's disease is expected to double by 2040.

I have taken the liberty of enclosing an outline for the proclamation and I thank you in advance for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Kat Perez
Community Engagement Assistant

Since 1969, Parkinson Society British Columbia has served to empower the Parkinson's community in British Columbia by providing resources and services to enable self-management, self-reliance, and self-advocacy.

SAMPLE PROCLAMATION

PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS Parkinson's disease, for which there is no known cause or cure, is a progressive, degenerative neurological disorder which causes tremor or trembling of the arms and legs, muscular rigidity, slowness of movement and difficulty with speaking and swallowing; and
- WHEREAS Parkinson's affects approximately 13,000 adults in the Province of British Columbia; and
- WHEREAS Parkinson Society British Columbia is providing information, consultation, support services and educational seminars for people with Parkinson's and their families; and is promoting a better understanding of this disorder; and
- WHEREAS it is desirable to increase the level of understanding of Parkinson's and the needs of persons living with Parkinson's.
- NOW, THEREFORE I, Jack Crompton, Mayor of the Resort Municipality of Whistler, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2020 as "**Parkinson's Awareness Month**" in the Resort Municipality of Whistler, Province of British Columbia.