

From: [Jennifer Willoughby](#)
To: [Jennifer Willoughby](#)
Subject: FW: Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day
Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:51:56 PM

From: Brian and Melissa Kottelenberg
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 8:49 AM
To: Jennifer Willoughby <jwilloughby@shelburne.ca>; Wade Mills <wmills@shelburne.ca>
Cc: Amanda Clarkson
Subject: Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day

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Dear Mr. Mayor Wade Mills and Shelburne Town Council,

It's that time of year again and we're asking for your help with raising awareness of the world's #1 birth defect: Congenital Heart Defects. 1 in 100 babies born every year will not live to see their first birthday.

There are 35 known types of CHDs, ranging from small holes in the heart that may never require surgery to complex CHDs which require surgery within days after birth. Tyson has 4 of these complex CHDs, as well as two holes in his heart. He underwent three open-heart surgeries at SickKids' hospital by the time he turned 2 years old, and he will eventually need to have a heart transplant. There is no cure for CHD.

We would like to thank Shelburne town council for your past support and once again, we're asking for your support in proclaiming Sunday, February 14, 2021 as "Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day" in Shelburne. The reason we are so fired up about awareness is because we believe that awareness leads to support, education and research. Research leads to funding. And funding leads to HOPE.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration. Typically each year Penny and Tyson look forward to meeting with the mayor for the proclamation, but of course with the current stay at home order, we will have to be creative about how to participate. We trust you'll devise a plan that works for all.

Sincerely,
Amanda Clarkson (Penny's Mom)
Melissa Kottelenberg (Tyson's Mom)