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Office of the City Clerk

March 31, 2025

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of Trillium Gift of Life Network (TGLN) to request a Proclamation of the month of National Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Week (NOTDAW) in Welland.

NOTDAW falls in the third full week in April, which this year is April 20-26. TGLN is calling on Ontarians to register their consent for organ and tissue donation. Right now, there are almost 1,400 people in Ontario waiting for a life-saving, medically urgent organ transplant, and every three days, someone dies waiting.

One organ donor has the potential to save eight lives and enhance the lives of up to 75 others through the gift of tissue donation. Since 2003, almost 25,000 Ontarians haver received a life-saving organ transplant.

A NOTDAW Proclamation would help symbolize the importance of registering to donate, and having the conversation about organ donation amongst families. It would also give TGLN an opportunity to highlight the need to increase donor registration.

I have included a proclamation template below with further details.

TGLN is responsible for delivery and coordinating organ and tissue donation and transplantation services across the province, as well as for planning, promoting and supporting all health care and allied professionals, advocates and the Ontario public in fulfilling their shared and integrated responsibilities in saving the lives of Ontarians waiting for a life-saving transplant.

Learn more about organ and tissue donation by visiting www.giftoflife.on.ca or how to register as a donor at www.beadonor.ca.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rachel Levy

Manager, Public Education and Marketing

Ontario Health (Trillium Gift of Life Network)



2025 BeADonor Month Proclamation Template

I, Mayor XX, do hereby proclaim April 2025 as "BeADonor Month" in the City/Town of XX;

Whereas, April is BeADonor Month in Ontario; and

Whereas, the goal during BeADonor Month is to inspire those who have not yet registered consent for organ and tissue donation; and

Whereas, on average 1,400 people in Ontario are waiting for a life-saving organ transplant and every three days someone will die waiting for an organ transplant; and

Whereas, in 2024, 341 deceased organ donors gave the gift of life, 1,035 deceased donor organ transplants were performed in Ontario, and 1,975 tissue donors enhanced the lives of thousands; and

Whereas, 90% of Ontarians support organ and tissue donation yet only one in three (35%) of eligible Ontarians have registered their consent to donate; and

Whereas, families almost always consent to donation when there is evidence a loved one registered their decision to donate, but in the absence of a registered donation decision, families consent only half of the time; and

Whereas, everyone has the potential to be an organ and/or tissue donor, regardless of age or health; one organ donor can save up to eight lives and enhance the lives of up to 75 others through tissue donation; and

Now Therefore, I encourage all citizens to learn more about organ and tissue donation and transplantation, and consider pledging their support to BeADonor Month by registering as a donor at <u>BeADonor.ca</u>.

Signature		
Mayor		