PROCLAMATION

GBS-CIDP Awareness Month

WHEREAS: The month of May has been internationally designated as "GBS and CIDP Awareness Month" to educate the public and to focus attention on Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) and Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP): rare, paralyzing, and potentially catastrophic disorders of the peripheral nerves.

GBS and its variants are rare conditions which can be characterized by rapid onset of weakness and often paralysis of the legs, arms, breathing muscles, and face. In some cases, GBS can lead to complete paralysis requiring life-sustaining hospital care.

CIDP and its variants, are rare progressive conditions, which can be characterized by the onset of weakness, numbness and tingling, which can lead to the paralysis of the legs and arms, and effect other areas of the body. It is not uncommon for individuals living with GBS or CIDP to experience significant pain.

The causes of GBS and CIDP are unknown. Both conditions can develop in any person regardless of age, gender or ethnic background, and each has a slow and unpredictable recovery. Patients and their families can face an uncertain future, usually requiring months of hospital care without knowing if or when they will recover, or whether they will face long-term disabilities.

Early diagnosis, treatment, and access to rehabilitation services can improve the chances of avoiding permanent lifelong residual damage of the nerves. In 2003, the GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada — a patient organization providing support, education, research, and advocacy — was founded so that no patient or family would go through GBS or CIDP alone.

THEREFORE: I, Mayor Patrick Brown, on behalf of Brampton City Council, do hereby proclaim May 2026, as "GBS-CIDP Awareness Month" in the City of Brampton.

Mayor Patrick Brown, City of Brampton