

Hi Friends and Family,

I am grateful for your support along my journey the past 10 months. And It is because of your support that I am asking for another huge favour. There is a saying "there is no lack of knowledge, just a lack of asking for help." So here goes:

I have recently been in touch with a lady who is running a Lyme Letters Campaign. She has two children with Lyme and as a result started LymeHope, a group for children and parents of children with lyme. She contacted me recently asking to post one of my blog articles and photo on her webpage (in the next two weeks).

Recently she was able to get a face to face meeting with the Minister of Health, Jane Philpotts. They have agreed to have another meeting with the idea that she will come back to demonstrate the magnitude of this issue, hence the Lyme Letter Campaign. <http://lymehope.weebly.com/lyme-letters-templates.html>

Would you consider sending a letter or email as a friend to me or anyone else you know with Lyme?

- both addresses (mail and email) are included below
- a template letter is included below and as an attachment
- take whatever you wish from the template and use for yourself
- you can refer to me personally and any details you want to share about me
- just be sure to add your name and address (if you don't mind) to the bottom of the letter
- I have been paying attention to the work from LymeHope for a few months now and I have complete faith in their confidentiality
- if you send an email, please start a fresh one and don't forward this - thanks
- she is hoping to have them within the next month - thanks!

Thanks for considering. A lot is starting to happen for Lyme awareness. People/patients have realized that they need to take the cause on themselves. Unfortunately many patients are unable but I am seeing a lot of "Momma bears" making headway. If you are interested google Lori Dennis, who just wrote Lyme Madness (she is a mom of an adult son with Lyme). Excerpts from her book/blogs are incredibly revealing.

A report was just printed for comment from the May conference on Lyme (you may remember that in Ottawa). It was to influence government and decision makers and I am told by many who have reviewed it, that it is a joke. All fluff and no action. So, its gonna take people, patients, friends and family to do something about it.

I was also horrified to find out that children are suffering even worse. There are no doctors that specialize in lyme and paediatrics, children are not able to express the symptoms and unlike me, having nothing to compare it to. But doctors in Canada are refusing to even take blood tests to monitor the drugs they are on from the US (my doctor has atleast agreed to that, as long as we don't talk about lyme). I think they are even more scared about the long term ramifications of the antibiotics in a child, so they won't even see them anymore. I can't imagine being a kid and in pain and not able to do what others are doing and not know why. But I also can't imagine being a mom, watching my child in pain and discomfort and not know why or what to do.

Please only do this is if you have plenty of time to do so. The campaign is going well.

Thanks,
Kristy

Lyme Letters Canada
PO Box 20045 Brant Hills PO
Burlington, Ontario
L7P-0A4, Canada

or

Email your letter to:

lymeletterscanada@gmail.com

Dear Minister Philpott,

_____, 2017

Someone I care about is struggling with Lyme Disease. It has been very difficult to witness the way this disease has impacted their life. It's also hard to believe that any Canadian should have to struggle so much to receive the medical care they need, in their own country. I am here to support them as best I can, but I am asking for your support as well.

I know it is very difficult to live with the symptoms of Lyme Disease. It is also challenging for me to understand what they are going through and sometimes to even know how to support them. I try to learn what I can, but it's very confusing because there is an over simplified image of Lyme Disease that does not reflect the true reality of this disease. This causes so much distress. I am writing this so that you can be aware of the impact this is having on so many Canadians.

There needs to be a major shift in the way Lyme Disease is handled in our country. As I start to research how long this problem has been going on in the US and other countries, I realize that very few advances have been made in the way it is diagnosed and treated here in Canada. I ask myself, how could this be? Why are we not leading the way? This problem is getting bigger every year and yet we don't have proper treatments even now. There are still so many questions that need to be answered about the diagnosis, treatments, transmission and even the scope and impact of this disease on Canadians.

The person I care about has struggled physically, emotionally and financially with this disease. I am here not only to support them but also to stand up for them when they are unable to. Minister Philpott, I am asking you to stand up with me. Nobody should have to go through what they are going through, in a country where medical advances are being made in so many areas. I am asking you to do your best to address this problem in a way that will improve the lives of those who are suffering.

Sincerely,

_____ (address)