



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
FRANK CAMPION**

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PROCLAMATION

“APRAXIA AWARENESS DAY”

May 14, 2024

Whereas, May 14, 2024, marks Childhood Apraxia of Speech Day during which awareness will be raised throughout Welland, Ontario, about childhood apraxia of speech, an extremely challenging speech disorder that affects 1-in-1,000 children; and

Whereas, childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) causes children to have significant difficulty learning to speak and is among the most severe speech deficits in children; and

Whereas, the act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, those with apraxia require early, appropriate, and intensive speech therapy, often for many years to learn to speak; and

Whereas, without appropriate speech therapy intervention, children with apraxia will have diminished communication skills, but are also placed at high risk for secondary impacts in reading, writing, spelling, and other school-related skills; and

Whereas, that such primary and secondary impacts diminish future independence and employment opportunities and challenge the ability to become productive, contributing citizens if not resolved or improved; and

Whereas, public awareness about childhood apraxia of speech in Welland, Ontario is essential for families of children with this neurological disorder and the professionals who support them to achieve the needed services for those learning to use their own voice; and

Whereas, our highest respect goes to these children, as well as their families, for their effort, determination, and resilience in the face of such obstacles.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANK CAMPION, Mayor of the City of Welland do hereby proclaim

May 14, 2024, as **“APRAXIA AWARENESS DAY”**

I encourage the citizens of Welland and surrounds to work within their communities to increase awareness and understanding of childhood apraxia of speech.

Apraxia Kids is the leading nonprofit that strengthens the support systems in the lives of children with apraxia of speech. Please visit www.apraxia-kids.org for more information.

Mayor's Office
May 2024




Frank Campion
MAYOR