

Proclamation

Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS) Awareness Week

June 07 - 13 2021

WHEREAS: Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS) is a chronic, non-communicable, inflammatory skin disease, characterized by painful nodules and abscesses which form most commonly in sensitive areas of the body and can be life-altering for those affected; and

WHEREAS: As many as 4% of men, women and children in Newfoundland Labrador and across Canada are living with Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS) but may not have a diagnosis due to lack of both patient and physician awareness; and

WHEREAS: Treating Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS) is a challenge for both patients and physicians as no one treatment works for everyone, some treatments lose effectiveness over time, many treatments are used in combination with other treatments and all treatments may cause a unique set of side effects; and

WHEREAS: The understanding and acceptance of the general public is an important factor in patients treatment and health, and Hidradenitis Suppurativa Awareness Week provides an opportunity to increase awareness, correct misconceptions, promote education and support, recognize the struggles of those effected, and shorten the delay in diagnosis; and

WHEREAS: In person awareness activities are not possible this year, however, support for patients continues during social distancing with support via phone and online and the medical treatment and care for patients continues, both virtually and in person when necessary; and

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that I, **The Honorable John Haggie, Minister of Health of the Province of Newfoundland Labrador**, do hereby proclaim this week as "Hidradenitis Suppurativa Awareness Week" and encourage all citizens to become involved in activities organized throughout this week.



**Honourable John Haggie
Minister of Health
Newfoundland Labrador**