



Municipal Flag Protocol and Proclamation Policy (1.3) Request Form

Please complete this form and submit it to adminteam@elgin.ca.

Organization: Childcan

This Organization is:

☒ Charitable Organization

☐ Not-for-profit Organization

Event/Occasion: Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Purpose of Event/Occasion:

To raise awareness about Childhood cancer which
is the number one cause of death by disease of
Canadian children. The incidence of childhood cancer in Ontario
has been rising by approximately 1% each year from 1986-2018.

Proposed Date for Flag Raising and/or Proclamation: Any date in September
(all flag raisings/proclamation dates are subject to availability in accordance with the Policy).

Contact Name: Sarah Dimitropoulos

Phone Number: 519 685-3500 x 336

Email Address: Sarah@childcan.com

My organization is requesting (please check all that apply):

☒ Flag Raising

☒ Proclamation

☒ Lighting the Elgin Administration Building

If your organization has a written proclamation you wish to be read, please include a copy with this form.



Please describe your organization/group:

We are a registered, community-based charity, that serves families whose children are diagnosed with cancer at Children's Hospital, London Health Sciences Centre. We support families across Southwestern Ontario, from Windsor-Essex to Kitchener-Waterloo, from the shores of Lake Erie to Grey-Bruce, and beyond.

Since 1974, Childcan has been there, walking alongside families as they navigate this unimaginable journey. We provide critical financial, emotional, and social support to ease their burden and bring hope in the darkest moments.

Has your organization achieved national or international distinction, made a significant contribution to the community, or helped to enhance the County of Elgin in a positive manner? Please describe:

Childcan had contributed to the community by supporting the numerous families in Elgin County over the years that have been diagnosed with childhood cancer. A childhood cancer diagnosis is not only an emotional shock—it's a financial crisis. Families see their household income drop dramatically as parents step away from work to care for their child, all while expenses skyrocket. Studies estimate that a third of a family's income will go toward costs related to their child's treatment. These costs are immediate, ongoing, and overwhelming.

Childcan steps in to help ease this burden, providing hospital parking passes and meal vouchers, gas and pharmacy gift cards, direct financial assistance for urgent needs, support for treatment-related travel expenses as well as post-secondary education bursaries and funeral cost assistance when the unthinkable happens.

But the challenges go beyond finances. Childhood cancer is isolating. That's why we foster connection and community through family support liaison who meets with our families, family activities, sibling support and recreational therapy, tutoring for children whose education is disrupted or who have learning challenges as a result of their treatment, bereavement counseling for families facing loss.

We also work with the pediatric oncology research unit at London Children's Hospital, funding research and increasing access to clinical trials so children can receive cutting-edge treatments closer to home.

PROCLAMATION

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

September 2025

WHEREAS: September is officially recognized internationally as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month; and,

WHEREAS: The most recent data shows that cancer remains the leading cause of disease-related death in children; and,

WHEREAS: The most recent data shows that incidence rates of childhood cancer are increasing; and,

WHEREAS: Cancer in children affects aspects of their physical, emotional, and social development, as well as their family and school life, effects which research shows are long-lasting; and,

WHEREAS: Childcan believes childhood cancer must be designated a child health priority, and that support services for families are critical; and,

WHEREAS: Childcan raises awareness and funds to provide personalized, responsive, and compassionate programs and services to families facing the childhood cancer journey from diagnosis, through treatment, post-treatment care, or bereavement and,

WHEREAS: Organizations which support families dealing with childhood cancer are working together to raise awareness of this disease and its devastating effects, as well as raising funds to support the affected families and children; and,

WHEREAS: Raising awareness and funds will help these families and children deal with the emotional and financial toll

THEREFORE: I, _____, Mayor of _____, do hereby proclaim September 2025 Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in _____.