

Sample Letter to Mayor/Councillor's Office

Dear Mayor Martin Ritsma and Councillor's:

I am writing to request that October 15 be proclaimed as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day in the city of Stratford Ontario.

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day is a global campaign of remembrance for pregnancy loss and infant death; which includes but is not limited to, miscarriage, stillbirth, medical termination, SIDS and the death of a newborn. In 1988, Ronald Regan, the sitting president of the United States of America, proclaimed October as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness month. By 2002, the idea to proclaim a specific remembrance day was started by Robyn Bear, Lisa Brown and Tammy Novak. Together, they petitioned the government to nationally observe October 15 as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Day across all 50 states.

Here in Ontario, Bill 141, an act for research to be done and programs to be developed for pregnancy loss and infant death support was passed in 2015. This legislation included the proclamation of October 15th to be recognized throughout the province.

In recognition of the importance of support needed when a family experiences this traumatic loss, I would be particularly honoured to have you raise the Pregnancy and Infant Loss awareness flag on October 15th this proclamation at (describe the event at which you would like the proclamation read.) We look forward to working with your office on this important endeavor and in representing our [city] in Ontario.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jillian Chambers
PAIL Volunteer

The City Of Stratford welcomed 1,124 new babies in 2023. Our community is a great place to raise a family, with the pure beauty of the surrounding landscape, and the kind and loving people that choose to live here. However, sometimes the joy of welcoming a new baby into the world turns into a great tragedy; we experience between 1 in every 4 infant deaths (which includes but is not limited to miscarriage, stillbirth, SIDS, or the death of a newborn). The pain of losing a child is unimaginable.

In hopes of helping fellow families who have gone through such tragedy we are hosting a Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness and Remembrance Event.

It will take place at Grotto Hair Studio On Ontario Street, on October 15th at 6:30 pm on a day that is globally recognized as a day to remember those babies who have gone too soon. It is our/my hope that this event can bring together individuals, families and organizations to help ease some of the pain but to also offer a time to remember our babies without feeling the stigma that often comes with talking about our losses.