

Groves wants more funding for support parents of autistic children

By Bill Rea

This coming Tuesday (April 2) will be World Autism Awareness Day in the Town of Caledon.

Caledon council Tuesday approved passage of the proclamation, and it was accompanied by expressions of the need for more financial support of families of autistic children.

The proclamation, that was passed unanimously by council, stated Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) affects more than 100,000 people in Ontario, and is now recognized as the most common neurological disorder. It affects one in every 94 children, as well as their friends, family and community.

?A child with ASD will become an adult with ASD,? it stated.

Councillor Annette Groves said she's been hearing from families with children, young and old, with forms of autism. Efforts to get money for programs for the youngsters is very hard on parents and caregivers, and Groves wondered how to go about getting money for these people, asking if contacting Dufferin-Caledon MPP?Sylvia Jones could help.

?We've been hearing from families for years that the funding is not there,? she commented.

Town Treasurer Peggy Tollett suggested consulting with Peel Region, since the region is responsible for social services.