



Transforming YOUR
(dis) ABILITIES
into Employment
GOALS

Supporting Equitable, Inclusive and Diverse Workplaces

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His Worship John Woodbury,
Office of the Mayor – Township of Southgate
185667 Grey Rd 9
Dundalk ON, N0C 1B0

2021.10.12

Dear Mayor Woodbury

I'm writing to ask, **on October 21, 2021, The Township of Southgate proclaims October as Disability Employment Awareness Month and participates in the "Light It Up! For NDEAM" campaign.**

As the Employment Coordinator at Life Directions, I know how vital the collaborative efforts and voices of government, business and service organizations are in raising awareness about disability and employment. Your voice adds to the celebration of the workplace accomplishments of people living with a disability. It also strengthens the call for more businesses to increase employment opportunities for skilled labour from this talent pool.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) is celebrated each year in October. To acknowledge and celebrate the workplace contributions of people living with a disability, business successes stories and benefits stemming from diverse and inclusive workplaces.

"Light It Up! For NDEAM" is a one-night-only, coordinated **purple and blue** lighting event on Thursday, October 21. Across the nation, city and town halls, office buildings, bridges, famous landmarks, federal government buildings, and interactive municipal signs lit up in purple and blue. **Staff are encouraged to wear purple and blue on October 21 to support co-workers living with a disability.** #NDEAM2021, #LightItUpForNDEAM, and #LightItUp2021 are the official hashtags to use in social media promotions.

Right now, many of our local businesses are wrestling with their immediate business challenges amidst the pandemic as our community gradually reopens. Several business sectors are facing labour shortages. This hidden talent pool of dedicated, educated, and skilled people can help our local businesses recover from the pandemic and expand their base of qualified candidates.

As a member of the Ontario Disability Employment Network, Life Directions and South-East Grey Support Services work together to increase employment opportunities and workplace inclusivity. From all of us working towards this goal, your mayoral proclamation on October 21 is appreciated!

Best regards,

Cristin O'Sullivan (she/her), DSW, Employment Coordinator
(519) 378-5514 | [Book a Meeting](#)