Hi there,

I am writing to request the illumination of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ monument in purple on May 5, 2020 in recognition of World Pulmonary Hypertension Day.

Pulmonary hypertension (PH) is a rare but very complex and serious lung disease, which is progressive and potentially fatal. PH is defined by high blood pressure in the lungs, which leads to enlargement and weakness of the right-side of the heart—a serious type of heart failure. PH can strike people of all backgrounds, ages, and genders.

PH shares a number of its symptoms with other conditions, resulting in many people being misdiagnosed. Without treatment, the average life expectancy of someone with PH is less than three years. Alarmingly, many patients spend two to three years seeking an accurate diagnosis. It is estimated that approximately 5,000 Canadians have been diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension, but as many as 10,000 may be affected by the condition. While there is currently no cure for PH, thanks to available treatments, many patients are living longer, healthier lives

Celebrated annually on May 5th since 2012, World PH Day is an international event that raises awareness of pulmonary hypertension worldwide. World PH Day focuses on the importance of improving the quality of life, and life expectancy of more than 25 million people living with PH worldwide. More than twenty-five international PH patient associations participate in World PH Day by organizing national awareness campaigns. For more information, please visit: [www.worldphday.org](http://www.worldphday.org/).

Since 2014, monuments and landmarks across Canada have been lit up in purple on May 5th to mark World PH Day and raise awareness of pulmonary hypertension. This year again, the PH community will be raising awareness with the *Paint Canada Purple* campaign, which seeks to illuminate monuments across the country.

Most Canadians have never heard of the disease until it affects them or someone they know. Unfortunately, this lack public awareness means that pulmonary hypertension is often diagnosed at a very late stage. I am personally affected by pulmonary hypertension: [details of your relationship to PH]. Because of my personal connection to the illness, it’s extremely important to me to raise awareness of PH and in doing so, promote earlier diagnosis.

I hope you will consider my request to have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ monument lit up in purple on May 5, 2020 as part of the *Paint Canada Purple* campaign. For more information on World PH Day activities in Canada, please visit the Pulmonary Hypertension Association of Canada’s website at www.phacanada.ca/WorldPHDay.

Thank you in advance for considering my request. I look forward to hearing from you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

[NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION]