



Dyslexia BC Newsletter, October 5th, 2023!



Image: Victoria in the BC Education Minister's office. In the picture left to right are: Jessica Mosley, Tierny Van der Vlugt, Kerry Morin, Cathy McMillan, Honourable Rachna Singh, Natalia Nazaroff, Finn Lust, Lee-Ann Lust, Caitlyn Arnold

Dear Dyslexia BC Community,

I hope this email finds you all in good health and high spirits. First and foremost, I want to extend my apologies for the prolonged silence. It has been a while since you heard from us, I am sorry.

As many of you may know, the journey of advocating for dyslexia awareness and support can be a challenging one. It often involves tireless efforts, countless meetings, and unwavering dedication to our cause. During this time of relative quiet, we have been hard at work behind the scenes, striving to make a difference in the lives of individuals with dyslexia in our community.

We had our Say Dyslexia Event at the Legislature and it was a huge success. We did pay to have someone record it and will be releasing that recording as soon as we can! We had some great media coverage from Global News! [Here is a news clip!](#)

Now, I am delighted to share some exciting news with all of you. Dyslexia BC recently achieved a significant victory at the BC Legislature, one that we believe will have a profound

impact on our mission. While the proclamation we received may not be written exactly as we had hoped, its importance cannot be overstated.

From October 7th to October 14th, Dyslexia Awareness Week will be officially recognized in British Columbia. This proclamation is a crucial step forward, offering us the platform and opportunity to raise awareness about dyslexia on a broader scale. It allows us to engage with offices, schools, supervisors, teachers, mayors, and anyone willing to participate in planning specific dyslexia awareness events throughout the week.

We understand that the proclamation may not be perfect, but it is a powerful tool for advocacy and change. It is a testament to our collective efforts and our ability to make our voices heard. Moreover, I am thrilled to inform you that in August, the BC Select Standing Committee on Finances and Government Services released its report, which included a groundbreaking recommendation. They proposed the implementation of screening for dyslexia starting in kindergarten, accompanied by essential funding. This recommendation aligns perfectly with our goals of early identification and support. Additionally, the report recommends providing structured literacy, backed by funding, which is a pivotal step towards ensuring that individuals with dyslexia receive the education and support they need.

I hope you have something Planned for International Dyslexia Awareness Month (All October), Dyslexia Awareness Week (in BC October 7th - 14th) or International Dyslexia Awareness Day (October 8)

We do have a [Dyslexia Awareness Campaign](#) if you are looking for something to do to create Dyslexia Awareness in BC this would be a great place to start!

As we move forward, let us remember that progress may not always come in the exact form we expect, but it is still progress. We have the opportunity to leverage this proclamation, along with the recommendations from the Select Standing Committee, to further our cause and advocate for much-needed change in our educational system. Thank you for your unwavering support and understanding during our absence. Dyslexia BC is stronger than ever, and with your continued support, we will continue to make strides toward a more inclusive and

supportive environment for individuals with dyslexia. Stay tuned for more updates and opportunities to get involved. Together, we can make a difference.

Here is a recent blog posted about the [BC Proclamation for Dyslexia Awareness Week!](#)

We will be releasing a report stemming from the three surveys that we have produced over the last few years. We would love to get up to date BC Dyslexia Stories. [This survey will close October 31, 2023 and the information will be included in the final report that we will be submitting to the Ministry and the BC MLA's.](#)

More to come soon!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cathy'.

Cathy