

February 17, 2017

Mayor Jim Watson  
City of Ottawa  
110 Laurier Avenue West  
Ottawa, ON K1P 2J1

Dear Mayor Watson:

This is to advise you that on December 20, 2016 the Board of Directors of the Carlington Community Health Centre passed the following resolution:

“To support a legislative approach that aims to officially recognize the equality of French and English in the City of Ottawa and to support the efforts of Ottawa Bilingue.”

Carlington is an agency that is proud to be designated under the French Language Service Act and is committed to equity in the delivery of health and social services to some of Ottawa’s most marginalized citizens. We stand with our CHRC Coalition partners and a growing number of individuals and organizations in asking that you join us in demonstrating a commitment to French Language Services in Ottawa.

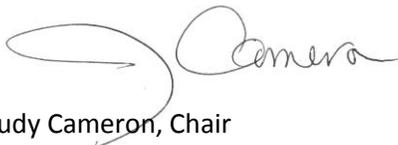
The City of Ottawa has demonstrated an intentional and consistent pursuit of ensuring that its citizens are able to have access to all services in both official languages. The explicit recognition of Ottawa as officially bilingual in the City of Ottawa Act, 1999 would assure an ongoing obligation to our francophone friends, neighbours and colleagues and reinforce our reputation for acceptance and diversity.

As the world watches Canada celebrate its sesquicentennial in 2017, the time seems right to send a message from the Nation’s Capital that bilingualism is part of the very fabric of the City of Ottawa and set an example for others to follow in embracing both of Canada’s official languages in a formal and indelible way.

Thank you for your consideration, Mayor Watson; and we hope that you will support this initiative.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Carlington Community Health Centre,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judy Cameron". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Judy Cameron, Chair

c.c. Riley Brockington, City Councillor for River Ward  
Jeff Leiper, City Councillor for Kitchissippi Ward  
Rick Chiarelli, Councillor for College Ward  
Ottawa Bilingue/Bilingual Ottawa  
Cameron MacLeod, Executive Director