

## **Amaryllis Letter to the Editor**

In November 2020, the Huntington Society of Canada is celebrating Amaryllis month, with a goal of selling 25,000 Amaryllis kits for the 2020 National Amaryllis Campaign. Every year since 1985, dedicated volunteers all across Canada have sold bulbs to support the campaign, with a collective goal of raising over \$100,000 coast-to-coast each year.

Huntington disease is a hereditary, neurodegenerative illness with physical, cognitive and emotional symptoms. About one in every 7,000 Canadians has HD, but one in every 1,000 is touched by HD, whether at risk, as a caregiver, family member, or friend. The HD gene is dominant, which means that each child of a parent with HD has a 50 per cent chance of inheriting the disease and is said to be at-risk. To date, there are no drugs to slow or stop the progression of HD; however, there are specific drugs available to reduce some of the symptoms. Research is being conducted in Canada and globally to find promising treatments and approaches to treating HD.

By purchasing an Amaryllis, you can help support Canadians who are affected by Huntington disease. Each kit is packaged in a lovely gift box containing one high-quality orange sovereign bulb, growing instructions, soil, a planting pot, a plant stake and a saucer. They come in cases of 12 kits and are shipped across Canada. Orders can be made at any time, with delivery dates from October to December. These flowers make a great gift idea for any occasion and bring beautiful brightness to any room.

It always means so much to our community to see Canadians rally together to help others and to inspire families with hope for a brighter future.

If you would like to purchase an Amaryllis, please don't hesitate to contact me at **[INSERT YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS]**. More information about the Huntington Society's 2020 Amaryllis Campaign can be found at [www.inspirehope.ca](http://www.inspirehope.ca).