



Information about Huntington disease and #LightItUp4HD

ABOUT HUNTINGTON DISEASE

Huntington disease (HD) is a genetic brain disorder with physical, mental and emotional symptoms. HD is often described as having ALS, Parkinson's, schizophrenia and Alzheimer's, all at the same time. There is no known cure. Each child of a parent with Huntington disease has a 50% chance of having the gene mutation that leads to the progression of HD.

Juvenile HD occurs when HD appears in someone under the age of 20. One in every 7,000 Canadians has HD and approximately one in every 5,500 is at-risk for developing the disease. Many more are touched by HD as a caregiver, family member, or friend.

ABOUT #LIGHTITUP4HD

Every year in May, HD Awareness Month, buildings and structures across Canada and around the world light up in blue for HD and purple for Juvenile HD.

2023 was a record-breaking year for #LightItUp4HD, with 263 sites lighting up across the world! 111 of those were in Canada, and in total 10 countries participated. HSC, Huntington disease organizations around the world, and many community members share the photos on social media to raise awareness about the campaign. HSC also promotes #LightItUp4HD via emails, on our website huntingtonsociety.ca, and in publications such as our newsletter and annual report. Seeing the brightly lit sites in person and sharing photos of these beautiful buildings and monuments lit up in blue and purple for HD and Juvenile HD brings so much joy to our community. This beautiful initiative also brings HD out of the shadows and shines a light on the individuals and families facing HD. We thank you for your part in raising awareness and building hope.

ABOUT HSC

At the Huntington Society of Canada (HSC), we are inspired by the spirit of the Huntington disease community. We hope to one day live in a world free from HD. Our goal is to increase the quality of life of people living with HD by:

Delivering support services

Raising awareness about HD

Supporting HD research

