

MEDIA ADVISORY

Canada Lights Up Purple for International MPS Awareness Day on May 15th ***Share your purple moment and win!***

Locations: scheduled LIGHT UPS Across Canada (see list below & www.mpsociety.ca/lightup)

On May 15, International MPS Awareness Day, monuments across Canada will be illuminated purple to raise awareness for Mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS), a group of rare, progressive and often life-limiting genetic disorders that primarily affect children.

The Canadian MPS Society is inviting Canadians to take part in a national "Light Up for MPS" social media challenge to help raise awareness and educate the public.

Participants are encouraged to:

- Post a photo of a purple-lit monument *or* create their own "purple moment" (wear purple, light up your porch, make a sign, colour a picture etc.)
- Share one fact you've learned about MPS - Use the hashtag #CanadianMPSSociety

All participants that enter go into a draw to win the **\$100 Amazon gift card**.

Winner announced: May 18, 2026 (via Instagram)

MPS is caused by the body's inability to break down certain complex sugars, leading to progressive damage to organs and tissues. While there is no cure, some of the seven different types have treatment options, and emerging gene therapies offer hope for the future.

Early diagnosis through Newborn Screening is critical and will save and change children's lives. Delays—often averaging five or more years—result in irreversible damage. It is estimated that 1 in 12 Canadians are affected by a rare disease. **NOT SO RARE!**

"Our call to action is for **every province in Canada to add MPS to their Newborn Screening**, an essential first step. Diagnosis should not take 5 years." — states Bone.

Get Involved: Find participating "Light Ups" and get involved:

 www.mpsociety.ca #CanMPS

MPS Light Up Locations: <https://www.mpsociety.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/2026-MPS-Day-Illumination-7-April-2026.pdf>

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 www.mpsociety.ca