



# The Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia

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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Cassidy Megan, Founder of March 26 Purple Day, Meets Her Majesty The Queen**

Halifax, NS -- The Global Purple Day Team (The Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia and The Anita Kaufmann Foundation) is pleased to announce that Cassidy Megan, founder of March 26 Purple Day for Epilepsy, will be presenting flowers at the end of June to Her Majesty The Queen during her visit to Nova Scotia, Canada. "I've been practicing my curtsy," said Cassidy. "I'm really, really excited and I just can't wait."

In 2009, Cassidy received the Inaugural Power of Change Award from the Province of Nova Scotia, which included a \$2000 bursary for her post-secondary education.

The Premier's Power of Positive Change Award recognizes public school students who demonstrate leadership in organizing a school or community activity, or show exemplary behaviour in promoting positive attitudes in their school or community.

Cassidy Megan received the Inaugural Power of Positive Change award for founding March 26th Purple Day for Epilepsy, with support from The Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia in Canada and The Anita Kaufmann Foundation in the United States.

Epilepsy affects 300,000 people in Canada and 50 million people worldwide, which is more than multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy and Parkinson's disease combined.

Despite its prevalence, epilepsy isn't well-understood and people with epilepsy can face social stigma and discrimination.

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“When people know more about different kinds of seizures, and how to help someone having a seizure, they immediately become more receptive to seeing the person with epilepsy as an ordinary individual,” said Deirdre Floyd, president of the Epilepsy Association of Nova Scotia, who helped Cassidy bring Purple Day to life. “Purple Day helps us achieve this by spreading the word about epilepsy and dispelling myths about this common neurological disorder.”

The Purple Day Global Team and the Canadian Epilepsy Alliance/alliance canadienne de l'épilepsie would like to thank the Selection Committee for choosing Cassidy Megan to present flowers to Her Majesty The Queen during her visit to Nova Scotia, Canada.

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