

# BARTOLACS HOPE DIAGNOSIS, CURE COMES IN 2020

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list goes on.

She has been to over 50 specialists and endured countless tests and procedures. Yet she still doesn't have an overarching diagnosis for her degenerative condition.

"It's kind of like a war zone in my body. It's affected every aspect of my life," she said. "It's funny how when you're younger, you have all these plans for yourself, but as you get older, you realize you're really not in control of life at all."

While most families were hustling about get-

ting ready for the holidays, Stephanie and her father, Peter, were driving to a specialist appointment at McMaster Children's Hospital in Hamilton. Since the Georgetown native, who currently lives in Milton, can no longer drive or even grocery shop, she spends a lot of time with her parents.

"It's hard to take time off work, but you want to be there for your child all the time," said Peter, during the hour-long trek to the city. "This has been going on for so long, and we still really don't have any answers. All you can do is be

there for your child."

With 2020 upon us, the Bartolacs hope this is the year their daughter's condition finally stabilizes or, better yet, that a doctor can diagnose and cure her condition.

"At this point, I'm just very proud of her because she is so strong, and it keeps my hope that someone will have a breakthrough and we will have a definite answer," said Peter.

Stephanie recently decided to go public with her ordeal in the hopes that a medical professional out there can help put a name, and ultimately a treatment, on the increasing symptoms that have tortured her for so long.

"I don't know where I'll be in six months (health-wise)," she said, noting there's talk of a feeding tube in her future as her digestive abilities decline. "Timing is really of the essence."

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Stephanie Bartolac, pictured with father Peter, is going public with her critical health issues in the hopes of finding a doctor who can diagnose her rare condition.

Stephanie Bartolac photo



## Halton Hills Sports Museum Seeks 2020 Nominees



The Halton Hills Sports Museum is looking for athletes, teams or builders worthy of being inductees into the Halton Hills Sports Museum Hall of Fame.

The museum, located at the Mold-Masters SportsPlex, is seeking nominees for the Museum's gala induction ceremony set for Thursday, June 25, 2020 at the

John Elliott Theatre.

Tickets are \$30 each and the evening starts at 6pm for a reception and then the formal awards ceremony begins at 7pm.

Any person or team who is, or has been distinguished as an athlete, an executive member or coach, or who has brought honour to Halton Hills shall be eligible for election provided he or she was a resident of the Town of Halton Hills at the time of the achievement which is the basis for his or her or their consideration.

Builder candidates may be either active or inactive at the time of their consideration.

Full nomination criteria and forms are available on the Museum's website, [www.hhsm.ca](http://www.hhsm.ca)

**Deadline for nominations is Feb. 28, 2020**

The HHSM Selection Committee  
Chairperson, Anne Andrews  
email - [andrews11@sympatico.ca](mailto:andrews11@sympatico.ca)  
phone - 905-877-1162

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