

# The Daily Gleaner

## **Infant-loss support organization wants to raise regional awareness;**

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A support group for parents who have lost a child during pregnancy or shortly after birth wants to help.

Bears for Bereaved Mommies is a non-profit, support and awareness organization founded by Saint John resident Terra-Lynn Coggan.

The group is raising awareness on the profound loss and immense grief experienced by families when they suddenly find themselves in the position of having lost a child.

Coggan, along with Saint John-Champlain MLA Roly McIntyre, lobbied the Department of Health and Wellness to have Oct. 15 designated as pregnancy and infant loss remembrance day.

Bears for Bereaved Mommies will host remembrance ceremonies and candle lightings along with other events throughout October. Coggan said she's optimistic about the future.

"I envision a bright future for Bears for Bereaved Mommies," she said.

"It is my hope that through partnerships with individuals, organizations, and the business community that Bears for Bereaved Mommies will flourish, allowing us to continue to provide programs, services, support, and raise awareness in conjunction with local hospitals and social agencies."

Recently, the group has been raising funds through the sale of awareness bands and remembrance ribbons.

Bear for Bereaved Mommies was founded in 2004 and offers a multitude of programs and services for parents across the region.

For more information contact Terra-Lynn Coggan at 506-696-5521 or visit the website at [www.bearsforbereavedmommies.org](http://www.bearsforbereavedmommies.org).

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