



Dec 07, 2012 - 8:09 AM

ACT recognizes need

Re: "Region aims to increase cardiac survival," Paul Forsyth, November 28th, 2012

Mr. Forsyth wrote an excellent article regarding the need to increase the number of people trained in CPR and increasing the public's awareness of automated external defibrillators (AED).

I am delighted to say that the ACT Foundation has set up the CPR and AED program in all 30 Niagara Region high schools, and nearly 6,000 Grade 9 students are currently learning CPR and AED skills each year. The ACT Foundation is working with Heart Niagara, and with the support of the Government of Ontario and First Ontario Credit Union, we have ensured schools receive training mannequins, AED training units, and defibrillators.

The ACT Foundation is working in partnership with the Government of Ontario and partners to equip high schools throughout Ontario with the CPR and AED program, start-up resources, and teacher training so schools can deliver the program and ensure all youth receive this lifesaving training as part of their high school education. CPR was inserted into the provincial curriculum in 1999 and over 1.4 million students have been trained by their teachers to date.

By ensuring CPR and AED training is free for all students as a part of their high school experience, we are ensuring all youth receive the training and it becomes a life skill.

Sandra E. Clarke

Executive Director

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