

## Local students learn CPR, AED

CAMPBELL RIVER COURIER-ISLANDER  
APRIL 25, 2014 12:00 AM

Email Print



At the presentation were Natalie Ward, Suzanne Berg, Jeremy Morrow, Ferris Stirling, Suzanna Blakemore, Joedy Williams, Debbie Seymour, Kim Suurhoff, Manager Client Care, RBC Campbell River; Shannon Hagen, Diana Lontayo, Meghan MacDougall, Angel Murphy

Each year, more than 400 Campbell River students will learn to save lives through a new program.

On Tuesday teachers from Carihi and Timberline secondary schools attended a workshop where they were trained to empower their students with CPR and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) skills through the award-winning ACT High School CPR and AED Program.

The program is built on a strong community-based model of partnerships and support, whereby the ACT Foundation helps communities find local partners who donate CPR and AED training mannequins, AED training units, teacher training and curriculum materials that schools need to set up the program. Teachers then teach CPR and AED skills to their students as a regular part of the curriculum, reaching all youth prior to graduation.

Thanks to a donation from RBC, the two secondary schools will each receive AED training mannequins, AED training units, curriculum materials as well as an AED for in-school cardiac arrest emergencies in case a student, staff or visiting community member suffers a sudden cardiac arrest at the school.

"At RBC we believe the health and wellness of local communities is of vital importance," says Matthijs Bruining, RBC Branch Manager, Campbell River. "We are proud to be long-time supporters of the ACT Foundation and are thrilled to be the community partners bringing CPR and AED training to School District 72 Campbell River secondary schools."

The Advanced Coronary Treatment (ACT) Foundation is working in partnership with British Columbia Emergency Health Services (BCEHS), British Columbia Ambulance Service (BCAS) and RBC to bring this program to Campbell River. ACT's health partners, who are committed to bringing the AED program to these schools and to secondary schools across Canada, are AstraZeneca Canada, Pfizer Canada and Sanofi Canada.

"We are thrilled with the support of ACT's partners, who have made this lifesaving program possible," said ACT Foundation Executive Director Sandra Clarke.

To date, the ACT Foundation has set up the ACT High School CPR Program in more than 1,600 high schools nation-wide.