



Delta high school students to learn life-saving skills

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Sands Secondary students put on a demonstration Monday during the launch of the ACT High School CPR and Defibrillator Program. Photograph By Gord Goble

With a new program rolled out this week, Delta high school students will begin learning life-saving skills.

On Monday, the Advanced Coronary Treatment (ACT) Foundation launched the ACT High School CPR and Defibrillator Program at Delta's seven public secondary schools.

The ACT Foundation is a charitable organization that, in partnership with B.C. Emergency Health Services paramedics and staff - as well as other community partners including Westshore Terminals and RBC - is establishing free CPR and defibrillator training programs in high schools throughout B.C. and across Canada.

Funding will see participating secondary schools receive Automated External Defibrillator (AED) training units and AED training mannequins so all students graduate with the skills and

knowledge to save lives. High schools will also receive, as needed, a defibrillator for on-site cardiac emergencies.

According to the Heart and Stroke Foundation, early CPR, combined with early defibrillation, can increase survival rates for cardiac arrest victims by 75 per cent.

"This initiative will undoubtedly save lives by giving teachers all the tools and training they need to pass along to their students," said Delta North MLA Scott Hamilton, who was on hand for Monday's demonstration at Sands Secondary.

"Young people in Delta and elsewhere will be empowered with the skills, knowledge and equipment they need to increase survival rates."

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