

Ontario to help high school students learn CPR

Canadian Press

Ottawa — Ontario high-school students will get the chance to learn life-saving CPR skills after a \$650,000 investment by the province.

"This is an important investment that could some day save the life of a friend, a family member or any member of the community," Premier Dalton McGuinty said Friday at Hillcrest High School in Ottawa.

"Every high-school student in Ontario will now have the opportunity to learn CPR." The funds will support the work of the Advanced Coronary Treatment Foundation, which is a not-for-profit organization that helps communities establish cardiopulmonary resuscitation programs in Ontario high schools.

A person's chance of surviving a heart attack increases by three times if they get immediate CPR, the government said.

So far, the ACT Foundation has helped establish CPR programs in more than half the province's high schools, with assistance from both communities and businesses.

This one-time funding will help the foundation reach smaller Ontario communities that cannot necessarily raise enough money for a CPR program themselves.