

Teachers learn safety

Howe Sound Teachers taught CPR to educate students

June 25, 2008



Photo by Meghan Clarkston
Paramedic BJ Chute demonstrates CPR
techniques Secondary on Wednesday.

Teachers from Don Ross Secondary, Howe Sound Secondary, Pemberton Secondary and Whistler Secondary participated in the Advanced Coronary Treatment Foundations (ACT) High School CPR Training workshop at Howe Sound Secondary on Wednesday June 25.

In partnership with the British Columbia Ambulance Service and the Ambulance Paramedics of BC is working to bring the ACT High School CPR Program to all BC youth. Having received a \$15,000 grant from lead community partner RBC; secondary schools in School District No. 48 Howe Sound will receive materials as well as a total of 105 CPR mannequins.

Teacher training in B.C. is provided by local paramedics, who volunteer their time to prepare teachers to teach the program to their students. Director of Public Education and CPR instructor BJ Chute provided the training and said the program is a good asset for schools to have, "students wouldn't know how to handle a critical situation so it's a good program having the teachers learn the technique and be able to educate students in both CPR and how to deal with the after shock of seeing a traumatic situation."

Cardiovascular disease is the second leading cause of death and accounts for more than one fifth of all deaths in B.C. Research indicates citizen CPR response can improve survival rate or victims of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest by almost fourfold. With eight in 10 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occurring at home, empowering youth with CPR training as part of their high school education will help increase citizen CPR response rates over the long term.

For more information about the program visit: www.actfoundation.ca