
NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
March 20, 2008

BC Ambulance Service

HOCKEY PLAYERS AND STAFF AWARDED

CAMPBELL RIVER –The British Columbia Ambulance Service (BCAS) will be presenting two Vital Link Awards and six Good Samaritan Awards to local heroes on March 20, to recognize their actions in saving a life.

“I took the Occupational First Aid Level 3 course only three weeks earlier, so the lessons were still quite fresh” said Kevin D’Eon. “You sort of block everything else out around you and focus on the task in front of you.”

On February 4, Kevin Piercy and Ken D’Eon were playing hockey with John Adams during a drop in session at the Strathcona Gardens Recreation Centre in Campbell River. The three men had played hockey together for many years with various teams. A few years earlier, the management at Strathcona Gardens purchased an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), which Adams and his team contributed \$20 each towards.

When Adams collapsed on the ice, Piercy and D’Eon quickly recognized that Adams had gone into cardiac arrest and required Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) immediately. While they were performing chest compressions and ventilations, Strathcona Garden’s employees called 911, while trained staff used the AED machine to attempt resuscitating Adams, until BCAS paramedics arrived.

“We know that even with the best technology and timely deployment of paramedics, the best chance for survival is through bystander CPR,” said Shawn Carby, BCAS Executive Director for Vancouver Island. “This is a critical step in the chain of survival.”

It is hoped that by promoting the examples where CPR has been successfully used to save a life, more people will be encouraged and motivated to learn this life saving skill. The awards will be presented at a special ceremony at Strathcona Gardens Recreation Centre, on March 20 at 3:00pm, by BCAS Superintendent Jason Twells; John Adams and his family will be present.

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Contact: Sarah Taylor
Communications Officer
250- 953-4310 or
250- 213-7555