
NEWS RELEASE

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BC Ambulance Service

PARAMEDICS RECOGNIZE FOUR LOCAL HEROS

VANDERHOOF –The British Columbia Ambulance Service (BCAS) will recognize four Vanderhoof residents with Good Samaritan awards for the heroism they demonstrated on the scene of a horrific accident earlier this year.

Dave Moore, Steven Martens, Pete Derksen, and John Boyes were close behind a devastating accident in Vanderhoof on September 16, 2008. Together they were able to assess the situation and tend to the most critically injured. Two of the men held C-Spine on a patient until BCAS paramedics arrived; a skill they learned in a first aid course through work, which can eliminate any further damage an accident of this type can have on a patient's neck and spine.

“The quick actions of these men are highly commendable,” said Mike Michalko, Executive Director for the BCAS. “Their ability to tend to multiple victims prior to the arrival of paramedics enabled crews to quickly assess the injured and transport them to hospital in a timely manner.”

The BCAS Good Samaritan Award is presented by the BCAS to individuals who have provided unselfish and humanitarian assistance during a medical emergency. The award aims to recognize the selfless acts of individuals and raise awareness of the important role members of the public can play during a medical emergency.

“Arriving at an accident scene seconds after it happens is always tough,” said Laine Smith, BCAS Unit Chief. “These individuals deserve to be recognized for the courage they showed and the care they provided to the injured.”

The award will be presented at the Vanderhoof BCAS station on Saturday, November 29 at 1:00pm by BCAS Unit Chief Laine Smith and attending BCAS paramedics.

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