
NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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BC Ambulance Service

10-YEAR OLD RECEIVES RECOGNITION FOR HEROISM

SMITHERS – The BC Ambulance Service (BCAS) presented 10-year old Brodie Cumiskey with a Good Samaritan award to recognize his quick actions during a medical emergency.

“This young boy did a fantastic job during what must have been a very frightening situation,” said Health Services Minister George Abbott. “His actions are an example to all of us about how quick-thinking and staying calm can make a difference during a potentially life-threatening situation.”

On Dec. 2, 2008, Brodie was enjoying a snack with his 12-year old brother Justice when Justice suddenly started choking. His father told Brodie to call for help as he assessed the situation and tried to assist Justice, who was now having an unexplained seizure. Brodie contacted the local RCMP detachment who notified the BCAS and the Telkwa Fire Department First Responders. RCMP Staff Sergeant Sheila White stayed on the phone with Brodie and provided instructions to care for Justice until BCAS paramedics arrived.

“Brodie’s actions are highly commendable,” said BC Ambulance Service Executive Director Mike Michalko. “His ability to stay calm and relay information to and from his father, exactly as he was told, was outstanding and enabled his brother to receive emergency medical assistance in a timely manner and make a full recovery.”

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

The award was presented at Telkwa Elementary School at a special assembly on Dec. 19 at 2:00 p.m. by BCAS Unit Chief and attending paramedic Tammy Forsyth and Werner Eichstadter.

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