

10

DONATION OF DECOMMISSIONED AMBULANCES FOR 2012

The Community and Health Services Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendation contained in the following report dated April 18, 2012, from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

1. Council authorize the donation of two York Region Emergency Medical Services ambulances that will be decommissioned from service in 2012, to Guyana Burn and Health Care Foundation to enhance their ambulatory care in Guyana.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek approval, in accordance with Council-approved guidelines, for the donation of two decommissioned surplus ambulances to a registered not-for-profit, community service or humanitarian organization.

3. BACKGROUND

Regional Council approved guidelines and procedures in evaluating decommissioned ambulance donation requests

At the meeting on February 17, 2011, Council approved Clause No. 6 of Report No. 2 of the Community and Health Services Committee adopting guidelines and procedures for evaluating donation requests.

The guidelines and procedures are as follows:

Guidelines:

- 1) A maximum of 25% of the decommissioned surplus vehicles may be donated in any given calendar year.
- 2) Donations will only occur to registered not-for-profit, community or international humanitarian organizations of sound repute and generally aligned with the services supported by York Region.

- 3) Preference, in order of priority, will be as follows:
 - a) Regional or local uses
 - b) Provincial/Federal/International Relief or other organizations
- 4) Organizations must also follow general guidelines, as outlined with the Community Development Investment Fund that relate to not being affiliated with a political or religious organization and must adhere and support the Human Rights Code.

Procedures:

- 1) A report will be forwarded for Council approval each time a request has been received that complies with the guidelines for donation.
- 2) Any expense for shipping, permits, and related costs will be covered by the organization receiving the donation.
- 3) Prior to accepting the donation, the organization will be required to acknowledge, in writing, that The Regional Municipality of York makes no representations or warranties regarding the vehicle and that they are assuming ownership on an “as is” basis.

EMS will be decommissioning 11 ambulances in 2012 resulting in a maximum of three ambulances being available for donation under Council guidelines.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

One request for two donated ambulances has been received in the last twelve months from one agency

In reviewing the requests we have received so far this year, Guyana Burn and Health Care Foundation's request is consistent with the donation guidelines (see *Attachment 1*). It has been confirmed that the Region will not assume any of the costs associated with shipping these ambulances to Guyana Burn and Health Care Foundation.

Guyana Burn and Health Care (GBHC) Foundation is a registered Canadian charity domiciled in York Region, registered under #875225401RR0001 and administered from offices in Richmond Hill. Over the past 14 years, the Charity has built and equipped a critical burn unit and provided the Georgetown Public Hospital in Guyana with reconditioned medical equipment discarded by Canadian medical centres.

Their request for two York Region EMS decommissioned ambulances would be a major upgrade for the Georgetown Public Hospital enhancing their ambulatory care in that

country. It would replace the current emergency transport vehicles (retrofitted mini buses with seats removed and stretchers tied with rope to anchors on the floor of the bus).

As of April 4, 2012, there has not been any information that would indicate that further requests for donations of decommissioned ambulances will be forthcoming.

Link to Key Council–approved Plans

While there is no link to Council-approved plans, this report is consistent with the Council-approved policy for decommissioned ambulances.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

If it is not being donated, a decommissioned ambulance is sold at auction. Based on the previous sales of ambulances at auction, the net value of a decommissioned ambulance can be between \$3,000 to \$5,000 based on the vehicle condition, mileage and demand.

The foregone revenues would be approximately \$5,000 per ambulance. The reduction in revenue of \$10,000 has been included in the 2012 EMS approved operating budget. Any expense for shipping, permits and related costs will be covered by the organization receiving the donation. There is no added expense to the Region. It is the responsibility of the receiving organization to inspect and prepare the vehicles or equipment for use in accordance with local regulation.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

A partnership with community agencies such as Guyana Burn and Health Care Charitable Foundation enhances the rapport York Region builds with the diverse cultures that populate our region.

7. CONCLUSION

York Region will benefit from the knowledge that the donation of two decommissioned ambulances will support international relief.

It is recommended that Regional Council authorize the donation of two decommissioned ambulances to Guyana Burn and Health Care Charitable Foundation as an enhancement to ambulatory care in that country.

Report No. 5 of the Community and Health Services Committee
Regional Council Meeting of May 17, 2012

For more information on this report, please contact Norm Barrette, Chief and General Manager at Ext. 4709.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachment referred to in this clause was included in the agenda for the May 9, 2012 Committee meeting.)

GUYANA BURN & HEALTH CARE

Charitable Foundation

Charitable Registration #: 975225401RR0001

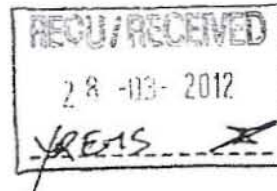
Help us support healthcare in the developing world.

March 8, 2012

Website = guyanaburncareunit.com; Google search "GBCU"

Ms Adelina Urbanski

Commissioner of Community & Health Services
Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street-3rd Floor
Newmarket, On. L3Y 6Z1



Dear Ms. Urbanski:

Letter of Request Soliciting Donation of Ambulances That May Be Available

We are a Canadian Registered Charity domiciled in York Region and have been providing assistance to relieve poverty and administering to those in need both locally and in developing countries in the Caribbean.

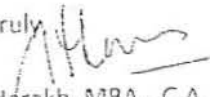
For the past 14 years, we focused mostly on Guyana, an English speaking country nestled between Venezuela and Brazil on the Atlantic Coast in South America. Our Canadian Embassy in the country supports our projects and aligns with us. Our major partner in our initiative there is the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation, a tertiary care 550 bed hospital in the capital city and we have over the years worked to build the capacity of that institution in areas not previously cared for, such as the creation of a Critical Care Burn Unit in the hospital and equipping and strengthening other areas such as maternity, pediatrics, ECG monitors, cardiac healthcare and infection control.

During our yearly sojourns, we are aware of special needs that exist and ambulatory care is an area that can be significantly enhanced with the additional fully equipped ambulances. Two years ago we did provide a Life Pak 9 intending it to be placed in the vans that are being used to transport patients. The current emergency transport are retrofitted mini buses with the seats removed and the writer has actually seen an occasion where the stretchers were tied with a rope to anchors on the floor of the bus and very little life support equipment.

It would be a tremendous enhancement to the ambulatory care in the country and save lives if we were able to successfully solicit the donation of fully equipped ambulances.

York Region is indeed populated by a cross section of cultures and its residences trace their places of birth to diverse countries as Guyana, the Caribbean being one such component and for which a contribution as requested will be significantly appreciated.

Yours truly,


Harry Harakh, MBA., C.A.
President



Dedicated to Making a Difference

Capacity Building of local Institutions

newspaper coverage in Guyana

GUYANA CHRONICLE Online
Breaking News • 24 hours live • 24/7 news, sports, and more...
Home • News • Sports • Business • Health • Education • Environment • Arts & Culture • Opinion • Classifieds • Contact Us

CDN\$154,000 boost for Guyana's health sector
Written by Vanessa Nairne
Thursday, 13 May 2010 03:22

The Guyana Burn & Health Care Charitable Foundation, a Canada based charity, has once more contributed to Guyana's health sector... Chief Executive Officer Mr. Michael Khan expressing his appreciation, pointed out that the support by the foundation over the years has assisted in the primary area of capacity building. A donation totaling CDN\$154,000 worth of equipment was made to the Georgetown Public Hospital (GPH) at the Project Dawn Health Centre, Lilendall, amidst a gathering of various stakeholders. Khan added that the equipment will not only serve the needs of the GPH, but also the health care institutions in New Amsterdam, Linden and West Demerara. The equipment included fetal monitors, heart monitors, a portable defibrillator and a quantity of Intravenous (IV) pumps. Making the Presentation on behalf of the Canadian Charity was Canadian High Commission's Charge d'Affaires, Mr. Raymond Drouin... Additionally the donation was one aspect of support offered by the foundation. The other saw a team of specialists being brought to Guyana to volunteer their time and expertise to train a total of 70 nurses.

TRAINING
The specialists facilitating the training include... Mr. Keith Laycock, specialist in bio-medical engineering.



Canadian High Commission's Charge d'Affaires Mr. Raymond Drouin presents C.E.O. of GPHC Mr. Michael Khan with the major array of donated equipment on behalf of GBHCF.



A display of some of the donated equipment



Donated fetal monitors to be used in the maternal and fetal well-being program



To ensure that the equipment would be on time, to be used in training, a core amount was taken as luggage by the volunteers



Keith Laycock, a Biomedical Engineer, with a local and biomedical technician



We appreciate the continued support

A special recognition to Mr. Keith Laycock and also
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, International Initiative

Website: www.GuyanaBurnCareUnit.com

Email: harakh@rogers.com (905) 737-3368

GUYANA BURN & HEALTHCARE

Charitable Foundation

A registered Canadian Charity - Charity Tax Number - 875225401

Dedicated to Making a Difference

WITH YOUR SUPPORT WE CONTINUED OUR GUYANA NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR NURSES ACROSS THE COUNTRY

newspaper coverage in Guyana

KAIETEUR News Online

FRONTPAGE NEWS EDITORIAL FEATURES / COLUMNISTS LETTERS OPINION

Nurses' education programme kicks off

THE fact that the first 24 to 48 hours after delivery is the most risky time for a newborn and mother has been listed among the several topics that will be addressed this week as part of a continued education training programme for nurses. The programme which comes as part of the observation for Nurses' Week (this week) was officially launched yesterday at the Lilendale headquarters of Project Dawn, under the auspices of the Guyana Burn & Health Care Charitable Foundation (GBHCCF) and the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation (GPHC) from which some of the participating nurses were drawn. Other participants were chosen from various public health facilities. The participants will be exposed to nursing development courses including neonatal resuscitation, maternal and fetal well-being, physical assessment, infection prevention and control, fetal monitor instruction, IV pump instruction and electrocardiogram, among other issues. According to Assistant Director of Nursing Services at the GPHC, Owen John, the activity comes as a prelude to International Nurses' Day which is being observed countrywide. The nurses' education programme, he said, is coordinated by Harry Harakh who is the pioneer of the Burn Care Unit at the GPHC and has been working in collaboration with the public hospital for the last 12 years.



(above) Dr. D. G. Jagdeo, MD, FAAP, FRCP, Asst Professor at U of T and Pediatrics Consultant; doing a hands on demo during his presentation, (below) nurses get hands on practice



Nursing Educator Mrs Vernie Ally, RN, BScN, SCM, NRP Instructor explains to the press her teaching objectives



Mrs Janess Wong, RN, ER Instructor, critical care nursing



Vernie interacts with nurses on an area of the presentation



Mrs Julie Fischer, RN, Infection Prevention and Control



Planning and Logistics, (left) Dr. Jagdeo speaks with the Director of Nursing at GPHC, (middle) Mrs Ingrid Jagdeo, RN, and Mrs Marcie Gravesande, RN, of St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, and (right) Group orientation session



We appreciate the continued support

A special recognition for Dr. D. G. Jagdeo of Scarborough General Hospital, Toronto; and the team of nurses on this outreach program

Website: www.GuyanaBurnCareUnit.com

Email: harakh@rogers.com

(905) 737-3368

GUYANA BURN & HEALTH CARE

Charitable Foundation

A registered Canadian Charity - Charity Tax Number - 875225401

May 2010



Dedicated to Making a Difference

WITH YOUR SUPPORT WE DONATED A SPECIAL NEEDS BUS TO THE CHESHIRE HOME FOR PERSONS WITH CEREBERAL PALSY

newspaper coverage in Guyana

GUYANA
CHRONICLE Online

Breaking News Climate change on St. Vincent agenda • Guyana in dash for F...

Canadian Organisation joins Rotary Guyana to help Cheshire Home

written by Harvinder Pansand-Edwards

Saturday, 15 May 2010 04:13

The Guyana Burn & Health Care Charitable Foundation, on Thursday last, handed over to Ms Joan Rodrigues, Chairperson of the management committee of the Cheshire Home, a mobility bus for disabled persons.

Twenty-four persons with multiple disabilities currently live in the Cheshire Home and hitherto their mobility was curtailed. There was an imperative need for a bus fitted with a hydraulic lift to facilitate wheelchairs...

The Canadian Foundation paid the purchase price and then events were set in place for its delivery to Guyana... This was merely one of many in a long line of initiatives programmed to assist Guyana's health sector, among which was the acquisition of the special needs bus that was donated to the Cheshire Home Thursday.



The bus at Cheshire Home in their compound, Guyana; licensed, insured and fitness certified for use.



Resident Dennis Thomas cuts the ribbon to open the bus assisted by Mrs. Pamela Harakh



Expert Graphics Designer Vivian Wong and Rotarian Pradeep Samtani design eye-catching signage



The bus narrowly passed over this bridge to access the compound at Cheshire Home. (it has since been widened, courtesy of Kiran Nauth, a local director of Cheshire Home.)



Resident Lynette Edwards is elated as she takes the first ride on the wheelchair lift with Mrs. Harakh

We appreciate the continued support

- A special recognition for those who volunteered and donated so much of their time, and our own Mrs. Anne & Mr. Joe Castanheiro, and Mr Vivian Wong, Lead Fundraisers; Pradeep Samtani, President of Georgetown Rotary Club, Guyana; Don Taylor, Vero Beach, FL; and to an Anonymous Shipper, Miami, FL
- Mr Gabor Fischer in the sourcing of this vehicle

Website: www.GuyanaBurnCareUnit.com

Email: harakh@rogers.com (905) 737-3368

GPHC acquires machine to control bleeding in burn victims
JANUARY 21, 2012 | BY **KNEWS** | FILED UNDER **NEWS**

The Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation (GPHC) will now have services in its



Burn Care Unit boosted after receiving a diathermy machine on Thursday from the Guyana Burn & Healthcare Charitable (GBHC) Foundation Inc.

The machine is used to control bleeding by cauterization in patients with burns.

The GBHC Foundation Inc. has committed to refurbishing the Unit and works for this has already begun.

A contractor was scheduled to visit the hospital yesterday to carry out repairs to the “special doors” which the Foundation also donated.

Training and other infrastructural works have also been planned for the duration of the year 2012.

Some of the other machine’s accessories were also donated to the hospital courtesy of the distributor for Covidien / Valley Lab, USA, through which the machine was sourced.