

Health Services Village puts a face to Week of Giving Campaign

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The Renfrew and Area Health Services Village's inaugural Week of Giving Campaign is off and running.

The keystone to this year's campaign, which runs Oct. 9 to 21, is the pancake breakfast at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church hall in Renfrew.

The breakfast happens on Saturday, Oct. 20, from 8 a.m. to noon.

The contents of the 'week' of giving were described in detail by Health Services Village vice-chairman Peter Emon in a presentation to Horton council Oct. 2.

He was accompanied by fellow mayors and Health Services Village (RAHSV) members Raye-Anne Briscoe of Admaston-Bromley and Bill Ringrose of Renfrew.

RAHSV is planning for bigger pancake breakfasts in future years, with more activities for children. The first breakfast will include musical entertainment and a meal of pancakes, sausages, fruit and syrup.

The cost is \$8 per plate for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under.

All proceeds will go to the health services village for physician recruitment. To date, the organization, which is funded by various individuals, businesses and the local municipalities of Admaston-Bromley, Renfrew, Greater Madawaska and Horton, has recruited six physicians, with plans to recruit eight more by

2014.

Major partners in the \$2.1 recruitment program basically consist of \$900,000 by the Renfrew Industrial Commission, \$140,000 by Renfrew Home Hardware Building Centre, and \$700,000 by Renfrew and Area Health Services Village.

The event will run in conjunction with the five-year Metric Mile program.

"We figure we can raise \$202,000 by collecting pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, loonies and toonies," said the health services village vice-chairman.

Kevin Hughes, a member of the health services village's fundraising committee, figured out how much money would be raised with a metric mile (1,500 metres) of each coin. A metric mile of pennies would represent \$787.40, compared to \$3,634.16 for a metric mile of nickels. The respective metric miles of dimes, quarters, loonies and toonies would respectively equal amounts of \$8,589, \$16,872, \$59,055 and \$111,162.

Horton Mayor Don Eady presented Emon with a \$50 roll of 25 toonies — five contributed by each of Horton's five council members. At the same time, Eady challenged each Horton resident to make a similar contribution to the campaign.

Other fundraising events for RAHSV include local coaster sales and tonight's A Taste of German Opera event at Castlegarth Restaurant.

There will also be efforts

to generate contributions by local businesses and their employees, churches and service clubs.

"It's pretty meat and potatoes, but it's necessary. It does two things for us," said Emon.

"It gets some funds, and it gets the information out there. If somebody doesn't have a family doctor, all of a sudden they realize there's some hope."

RAHSV also plans to create a wall to recognize its donors.

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, Emon said the Week of Giving has been conceived as a signature time of the year when requests for funds would not be overshadowed by other charity, fundraising or community events.

Later this year, there are also plans for RAHSV to approach professional associations, real estate boards and the police association for support.

TWO MOTIONS

The presentation ended with Emon indicating that RAHSV would also like each of the four local municipalities to consider two motions.

One is for Horton (and the other three municipalities) to continue to support RAHSV's work in the community by pledging an annual commitment through to 2024. That amount of \$25,000 in 2010 rises two per cent each year. If continued to 2024, the amount would then be \$32,987.



STEVE NEWMAN/METROLAND

Mayor Don Eady, at left, presents a roll of 25 toonies to Peter Emon, vice-chair of the Renfrew and Area Health Services Village (RAHSV), on behalf of the five-member Horton council. Eady challenged each Horton resident to make the same contribution. From left, in the back row, are Horton councillors Bob Kingsbury and Jamey Larone, RAHSV members Raye-Anne Briscoe and Bill Ringrose, and Horton councillors Glen Campbell and Margaret Whyte.

The second motion asks each of the municipalities to agree that "any surplus in the annual municipal contributions revenue line, which was initially thought to be needed for administration, be allocated annually ... on an as-needed basis to other aspects of the corporation's economic program."

In response to the presentation, in his capacity as a private citizen, Coun. Jamey Larone said he applauded the work of the health services village. As a councillor, he said he's "not opposed" to the long-term commitment, as

outlined in the first motion. Mayor Don Eady, who called the health services village's accomplishment "absolutely amazing," talked about the commitment Horton residents have made over the years to Renfrew Victoria Hospital.

Eady then presented a roll of 25 toonies to Emon. Noting this represented five toonies from each council member, Mayor Eady challenged each Horton resident to do the same for the Renfrew and Area Health Services Village.

RAHSV made similar presentations to Renfrew and

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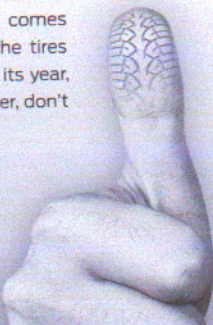
Greater Madawaska councils Tuesday of this week.

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