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The TPA wishes to congratulate the OPA and our counterparts in Niagara for hosting another fantastic annual conference this year. Many TPA members attended the conference and spoke quite highly of the program, planning and overall execution of the event. We look forward to convening again in our hometown later this year and we expect all of you readers to join us and take up our challenge of bringing two additional delegates along with you.

Many TPA members received awards at the Niagara Conference in November, among them Directors Jesse MacNevin and members John Klich and Gary McAuley who received awards for OPA Appreciation, Exemplary Service and Long Service accordingly.



Other TPA award winners who were unable to attend the Gala were Valour Winner Desmond Fan, Exemplary and Long Service winner Bruce Newton, & Appreciation winners Martin Holdenreid and Rachel Janer – congratulations on behalf of the TPA to all its attendees and honourees.

Well the first Patch of 2012 has come to its conclusion, thank-you all for reading and we look forward to highlighting the many activities of the TPA in the next edition of *Canadian Paramedicine*.



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PROFESSIONAL PARAMEDIC ASSOCIATION OF OTTAWA

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Director of Print Media

Happy new year everyone! Here's hoping that 2012 is a great year for all of you. Congratulations to everyone involved with the new Canadian Paramedicine magazine. We, along with over 20,000 paramedics across the country are excited about this new venture!

The Professional Paramedic Association of Ottawa was extremely proud to end 2011 celebrating our achievements, our bravery and our diversity. Here is a recap...

Chris Bugelli receives bravery award

Ottawa paramedic Chris Bugelli received the N.H McNally Award for Bravery after rescuing a man from an overflowing drainage ditch this past spring.

The provincial award, named after the founder of Ontario's ambulance system, recognizes "acts of conspicuous bravery by prehospital professionals in the performance of their duties."

It was mid-March when Chris arrived on scene to find a man in the cold, deep water. When the man's head suddenly became submerged, Chris decided to take action.

Throwing off his jacket and iPhone, Chris ran into the water. Resisting getting caught on debris in the deep drainage ditch, Chris pulled the man's head above the surface and began

pulling him to safety. With the cold water quickly taking its toll, Chris and the man were helped onto shore by police and other paramedics.

Chris was treated by his colleagues for cold-induced asthma, and reassessed in hospital. He returned to work the same day, brushing off the event as just another day on the job.

Congratulations Chris!

OTTAWA PARAMEDIC SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICERS RECEIVE HEROISM AWARD

In January 2008, Communications Officers Tara Josey and Nadine Leduc were off-duty and leaving a local coffee shop. Suddenly, they heard the sound of gunfire and saw a man laying motionless on the parking lot ground.

While other bystanders ran from the scene, Tara and Nadine ran to help the injured man. They administered first aid until the paramedics arrived, actions that were instrumental in saving the man's life.

This fall, Tara and Nadine were honoured for their bravery by two awards: The City of Ottawa Heroism Award, presented by Mayor Jim Watson; and the Governor General's Medal of Bravery, presented by Governor General David Johnson.

Congratulations to you both!

ONTARIO PARAMEDIC ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to Andrew Orchard, Chris Bousquet, Gary Chamberlain, Hilton Radford, Norm Robillard and Steve Leu, who all received the Long Service Award from the Ontario Paramedic Association. The award is presented to paramedics who have achieved 25 years of service.

Chris Bugelli received the Act of Valour Award, presented to paramedics who have demonstrated acts of valour or provision of care under extreme conditions.



Switzerland Medic Melissa Bovet poses with D Platoon paramedics in Ottawa.

SWITZERLAND PARAMEDIC VISITS OTTAWA PARAMEDIC SERVICE HEADQUARTERS

In October, we were happy to receive a visit from Paramedic Melissa Bovet from Switzerland.

Melissa stopped by for a tour of the paramedic headquarters and spent some time with our crews. She was quite impressed by the size of Ottawa Paramedic Service and that paramedics can perform so many controlled medical acts without physicians on scene.

Apparently, the MD's will hop in the ambulances with the paramedics when it's an important call in Switzerland—just to authorize orders. They don't have BHP patch phones.

Melissa is now looking into international reciprocity so she can challenge our provincial exams and possibly work in Ontario.

TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

The PPAO is proud to work with the Ottawa Paramedic Diversity Champion Program on several diversity-related issues in the community. PPAO President Darryl Wilton states, "we are only beginning to realize the wisdom, relations and experiences this very valuable program has to offer."

November 20, 2011 marked the Trans Day

of Remembrance (TDOR). This annual event is recognized worldwide to recognize those who have been killed as a result of Transphobia—the hatred or fear of Trans, Transgender, Transsexual, Cross-Gender, Gender-Variant, Gender Queer, and Gender Non-Conforming people. The day also helps bring attention to the continued violence and discrimination endured by the Trans community. To help demonstrate our commitment to diversity, the Ottawa Paramedic

Service and the PPAO participated in several events organized by the Ottawa 2011 TDOR Committee. One of the most important events was the flag-raising ceremony held at Paramedic Headquarters where paramedics and members of the Trans community met to raise the Trans flag in memory of the victims of Transphobia.

We look forward to continued collaboration between the PPAO and the Diversity Champion Program.



Left: Paramedic Headquarters flies the Trans flag. Right: Diversity Champion Program paramedics Paul Morneau, Ashley Murfin, and Deanna Schofield with Trans Community civilians Amanda Ryan and Alex Thomas.



ONGOING VOLUNTEER EVENTS

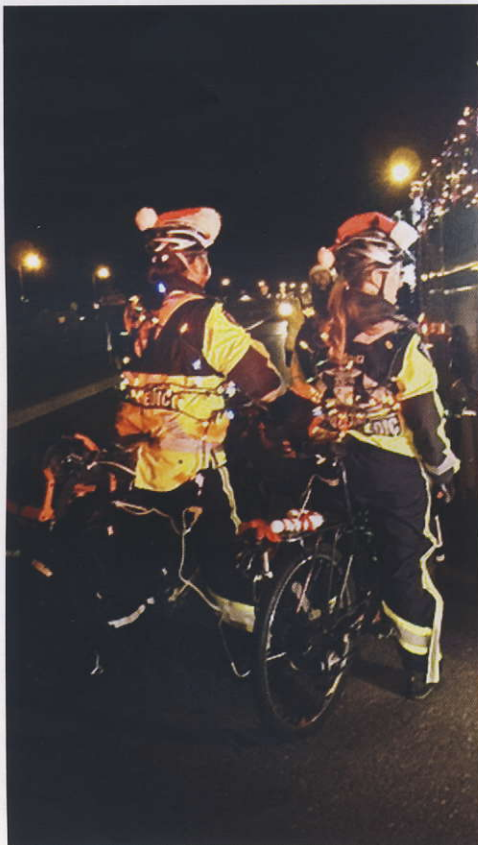
Thank you to all of our volunteers who took the time to participate in numerous community events throughout 2011 highlighted in our annual Year in Review publication. Your commitment to the paramedic profession and your community are greatly appreciated!



Top: Algonquin College students learn CPR. Bottom: Martin Masse presents at a local school.

CHRISTMAS PARADES

Ottawa paramedics, communications officers, equipment and supply technicians and family members participated in multiple Christmas parades this past holiday season. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help celebrate the holiday cheer with your community.



PARAMEDICINE 2011

We would like to congratulate the Niagara Paramedic Association and Ontario Paramedic Association for the P2011 Conference, hosted from Nov 25 to 27, 2011 at Sheraton on the Falls. The event had outstanding international content, an incredible facility, beautiful views, enough food to feed an army and even free beverages.

We are looking forward to P2012 being hosted by the Toronto Paramedic Association.

www.OttawaParamedics.ca

