

For Immediate Release

October 10, 2006

Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital Foundation
Carleton Place, ON

RBC employees lend a hand at the HELPP Lottery



Rob LeCasse, Assistant Manager of the Carleton Place Giant Tiger, watches as Joan Hubert, RBC Carleton Place; Norma Hamilton, HELPP Lottery Volunteer Coordinator; and Sharon Craft, Manager of Client Care at RBC Carleton Place; sells a HELPP ticket to Ray MacLaren, Manager of the Carleton Place Giant Tiger.

The MHAuxiliary would like to thank the local branch of RBC and their staff for their support with the HELPP Lottery. Introduced in Carleton Place in 1992, the HELPP (Hospital Equipment Lottery Project for People) is a break-open ticket lottery program, established in 1989 by the Hospital Auxiliaries Association of Ontario (HAAO).

“Over the past year, it has been very difficult to find volunteers to help us with the lottery,” stated Norma Hamilton, HELPP Lottery Volunteer Coordinator. “The contribution from the staff of RBC has been a tremendous help in allowing us to continue with the program and I am very grateful for their support.”

The tickets for the HELPP Lottery are sold at Giant Tiger from 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. on Friday and from 9 a.m. -12 p.m. on Saturday. The HELPP lottery ticket has unique hospital symbols on the face of the ticket- the ambulance, wheelchair, crutches, bed pan and the "H" letter. Each ticket costs 50 cents, with prizes going as high as \$100.

“The Auxiliary would also like to thank Ray MacLaren and the staff of Giant Tiger for welcoming our members into their store each and every week,” continued Mrs. Hamilton. “We are very happy to have them continue as our hosts and we hope they know we are very appreciative of their support.”

“RBC and its employees are proud to have the opportunity to support the community, especially the hospital”, stated Sharon Craft, Manager of Client Care at RBC Carleton Place and HELPP Lottery volunteer. “We look forward to any future opportunities that may arise and would like to thank the MHAuxiliary for giving us a chance to become involved.”

Through RBC’s Employee Involvement Project, staff members of RBC are encouraged to donate their time and expertise to causes that matter to them and their communities. In addition to volunteering with the MHAuxiliary, Ms. Craft was also a member of the Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital Foundation Board of Directors from 2000 -2003. Another member of the RBC team, Debra Bellevue, is currently volunteering on the Foundation Board.

In 2005/06 the MHAuxiliary raised approximately \$26,000 from the lottery which was directed towards the Auxiliary’s last installment of their pledge of \$270,000 to the *Help Improve Tomorrow Today!* campaign. This total was slightly lower than the \$45,000 raised in each of the previous three years. The Auxiliary feels that this drop in revenue can be attributed to the lack of volunteers to man the program. Anyone interested in donating their time to the lottery is asked to contact Norma Hamilton at 613-257-2868.

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