

For Immediate Release

January 11, 2006

Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital Foundation
Carleton Place, ON

Carleton Place Hospital receives new wheelchairs



Available for the presentation of the wheelchairs are (from l-r) Norine Kelly, Betty Godfrey, Fay Smith, Toni Surko, AED of Patient Services at CPDMH, Don Chapman, Anne Chapman, Margaret McEwen, Eleanor Code, Merlyn Smith, Des Kelly, and sitting in the wheelchair is Mike Gagne, CEO of CPDMH

The Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital (CPDMH) is pleased to announce that the MHAuxiliary has purchased 10 new wheelchairs for the organization. The funds used to purchase the new chairs was raised from the Ride of Splendor held on September 25, 2005.

"Many of our volunteers working at the front desk of the hospital, as well as in other departments, often had to go throughout the building in search of a wheelchair whenever a patient came to the hospital with mobility issues and needed help getting to different departments," stated Betty Godfrey, 1st Vice of the MHAuxiliary. "When the proceeds from the Ride of Splendor was finalized, it seemed obvious that the money would be best spent buying new wheelchairs for the hospital."

A continual increase in the services offered by the hospital, an increase in the population throughout the Carleton Place & area, as well as having some of the wheelchairs currently in use at the hospital becoming old, resulted in more wheelchairs being needed at CPDMH.

"The Auxiliary has always gone above and beyond the call of duty when it comes to helping us serve the community better," stated Mike Gagne CEO of CPDMH. "The recent purchase of the wheelchairs is just another example of their dedication to our hospital. I sincerely thank them for all they have done and continue to do for our hospital and the community."

Organized by MHAuxiliary President, Flora Neave, and her husband, John, the Ride of Splendor began in 2000 and is a planned motorcycle tour throughout the Ottawa Valley. Participants

come from all over the Ottawa Valley, Ontario and in some case even the United States to take part in this annual event. Participants can choose to pay flat registration fee or collect pledges as well as choose between a short or long travel route. Since it began the Ride of Splendor has raised approximately \$43,000 for CPDMH including the approximately \$8,000 raised in 2005.

"As a group the Auxiliary takes enormous pride in helping the hospital improve patient care - it's the reason we came into being and why we continue to work together as a group," continued Mrs. Godfrey. "In addition to aiding in patient care, the new wheelchairs will also help our volunteers perform their duties better which is also very important to our organization."

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