

For Immediate Release
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Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital Foundation
Carleton Place, ON

8th Annual Tree Lighting A Huge Success!



Pictured with the new traction bed are (back row l-r) Ian Edwards President of CPDMH Foundation; Christine Boast, Manager of the Physiotherapy Department; Katrina Ayling, CPDMH Physiotherapist; Megan McLenaghan, CPDMH Physiotherapist; Merlyn Smith, Physiotherapy Volunteer and member of the MHAuxiliary; (Front row l-r) Toni Surko, AED of Patient Services; Leisa Butterworth, Physiotherapy Clerk; Nadine O'Sullivan, CPDMH Physiotherapist and Linda Howard, Occupational Health Nurse.

Thanks to the tremendous support from the residents of Carleton Place and the surrounding communities, the Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital (CPDMH) Foundation is thrilled to announce that the 8th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony has received donations totalling \$18,738.13. This is the highest total the event has raised and the proceeds were used to purchase a new traction bed for the Physiotherapy Department of CPDMH.

"Our department was thrilled to hear that the funds needed to purchase our new traction bed would be made available through the annual Tree Lighting", stated Christine Boast, Physiotherapy Manager. "The new traction bed is a welcome addition to our department and I want to thank the community for their generosity."

The Tree Lighting Ceremony began in 1998 by inviting members of the community to make a donation to the Foundation in honour or in memory of a loved one. For every gift received, the Foundation lights a bulb on the tree in front of CPDMH. Since its beginning, the event has raised over \$69,000, including the approximately \$19,000 raised this year, for new medical equipment and improvements to CPDMH.

"Since most of the donations given to the Tree Lighting are made in memory of a loved one the Ceremony has become very important to the community and also very important to the Foundation," stated Ian Edwards, President of the CPDMH Foundation. "We are very appreciative of the support the community has continued to give to this event and we would like to give our sincere thanks to everyone who has made the 8th Annual Tree Lighting an enormous success."

At this year's Ceremony, the people in attendance were treated to a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, who turned on the tree lights. When the lights were lit the crowd was surprised to see that the tree had new multi-coloured LED lights, which were generously donated by Carleton Place residents, Ron and Betty

Roe.

"The LED lights were a very nice addition to the Tree Lighting and on behalf of the Board of Directors of the CPDMH Foundation I would like to thank Ron and Betty for their wonderful gift. Both Ron and Betty have given so much to the hospital over the years and all associated with the Hospital are very grateful for their continued dedication to the organization", continued Mr. Edwards. "I would also like to thank the Presbyterian Choir for leading us in the singing of carols, and Santa and Mrs. Claus for taking time from their hectic schedules to come to the Tree Lighting. Hopefully we will see them at the event next year!"

Ron and Betty have long history with CPDMH. Betty has been a very active member of the MHAuxiliary for 30 years and can be seen volunteering in the Physiotherapy Department. Betty has been awarded a life membership to the organization. of the and has been involved in . Ron was a member of the hospital Board of Trustees from 1988 - 1996 and Chair of the Board from 1993-96. During that time, Ron was involved with starting the CPDMH Foundation and was a member of the Foundation Board of Directors until 2001. After leaving the Board he joined his wife, Betty as a member of the MHAuxiliary.

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