

Paramedic Michel Bigras receives Exemplary Service Medal 1st Bar

ROSALIND RUSSELL Paramedic Michel Bigras of MidNorth Monitor/QMI Agency Noëville, Ontario, a paramedic with local emergency services, was honoured recently after 30 years on the job. The Governor General of Canada makes available Exemplary Service Medals for EMS professionals, as part of the Canadian Honours Programme.

The award is available to eligible members of the pre-hospital emergency medical service who have served for at least 20 years in a meritorious manner. It recognizes those professionals who have performed their duties in an exemplary manner, characterized by the highest standards of good conduct, industry and efficiency. To qualify, at least ten of these years of service must have been "street level" duty involving potential risk to the individual. A Bar may be awarded for each additional 10 years of service.

At the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board Annual General Meeting held in Killarney on Wednesday, May 23, 2012 Paramedic Bigras was presented with his 1st bar by Chief of EMS Michael MacIsaac.

"This national award is more than just a long service award; it recognizes exemplary service and it is a great honour to be able to present this award to a valued employee and member of the community", said Chief MacIsaac.

DSB Board Chair Les Gamble was truly appreciative of the great work that paramedics within the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB area.

At the DSB Board meeting the following day, Chair Gamble stated "that Paramedic Bigras should be commended for the many years of caring for the people of Manitoulin and Sudbury and he wanted to offer the whole Board's congratulations for a job well done."

DSB CAO Fern Dominelli who was present at the award presentation noted, "it is a testament to the level of professionalism that Mr. Bigras displays, that makes this award mean so much not only to the recipient but to the organization as a whole. Every time I am notified that one of our paramedics is being honoured with this award I am reminded of the good work that goes on often behind the scenes, in tough situations".



Michal Bigras receives his Exemplary Service Award from Major-General Richard Rohmer at the Association of Municipal Emergency Medical Services of Ontario (AMEMSO) in 2007. Photo supplied