

Public access defibrillation (PAD) program in area

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There has been a lot of talk lately about the six-minute ambulance response time put in place by the Ministry of Ontario Health and Long Term Care.

Last week, David Wolff, of the Manitoulin-Sudbury Emergency Medical Service, told the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board that the much talked about six-minute response standard is the time required to respond to a sudden cardiac arrest is 'any' defibrillator on scene, not specifically an ambulance. This includes all of the public access defibrillators, first response teams and the tiered response teams, which is a standard for the province.

In the MSDSB catchment area there are currently 115 public access defibrillators (PAD) available for someone who is suffering from cardiac arrest or their vital signs are absent. Of those 115 PADs, approximately 70 have been funded by the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario, 30 have been purchased by the MSDSB and placed in their offices and housing units.

Defibrillators have also been placed with the tiered response partners, such as the fire departments, OPP and other organizations that have partnered with the MSDSB and

the four first response teams.

Wolff also told the MSDSB there are others who own them, which is a great asset to the areas. Without the PADs out there he doesn't think they would make the six-minute bench mark anywhere, even in the town areas.

Wolff pointed out there is a tiered response partnership with the Espanola Fire Department.

Even with the programs in place and the number of PADs available there are still some areas that would prove difficult to meet the six-minute standard of having a defibrillator on scene.

He further explained there is an open offer to municipalities that have not yet partnered into the tiered response program. If they wish to join, a letter will be going out in the next few weeks, making an offer for the MSDSB to support the partnership and provide the defibrillators as well as the initial training to use the unit.

Wolff added that the Heart and Stroke Foundation does also make offers to municipalities providing the process for them to make application for the defibrillators. These units are funded by the Ontario Defibrillator Accessibility Initiative.

Here is a list of PADS currently in the Mid-North Monitor's coverage area.

- **McKerrow** - Baldwin Fire Department located at 11 Spooner Street;
- **McKerrow** - Baldwin Town Hall Board Room located at 11 Spooner Street;
- **Espanola** - Espanola High School at the main hallway west of the office near the gym located at 147 Spruce Street;
- **Espanola** - École Secondaire Catholique Franco Ouest in the front office located at 147 Spruce Street;
- **Espanola** - Espanola Curling Club on the bar side located at 58 Mead Street;
- **Espanola** - Espanola Recreation Complex at the arena entrance located at 175 Avery Drive;
- **Espanola** - North Shore Search and Rescue located at 385 Ricci Drive;
- **Espanola** - Espanola Fire Department located at 592 Second Avenue;
- **Espanola** - Cambrian College in the main hallway located at 91 Tudhope Street;
- **Espanola** - Milltown Apartments inside main entry located at 60 Barber Street;
- **Espanola** - Rainbow Apartments inside main entry located at 70 Barber Street;
- **Espanola** - DSB Office across from the accessible washroom located at 210 Mead Boulevard;
- **Espanola** - DSB Office on the main floor office entry located at 347 Second Avenue;
- **Nairn Centre** - Nairn Community Centre in the main

hall located at 64 McIntyre Street;

- **Webbwood** - Webbwood Fire Department;
- **Webbwood** - C.A. MacMillan Place inside main entry located at 10 O'Neil Street;
- **Walford** - Fire department owned;
- **Massey** - Massey Fire Department owned;
- **Massey** - Massey Arena in the lobby near the side entrance located at 455 Government Road;
- **Massey** - Evelyn McNenley Apartments inside the main lobby located at 410 Bell Street;
- **Whitefish Falls** - Rainbow Country Recreation Centre located 1052 Whitefish Falls Road;
- **Whitefish Falls** - Whitefish Falls/Willisville Volunteer Fire Department located at 1056 Whitefish Falls Road;
- **Whitefish River First Nation** - Mnaamodzawin Health Clinic located at 48 Hill Side Road;
- **Whitefish River First Nation** - White River Community Centre located at 46 Bay Island Road;

To access a complete list you can go to www.msdsb.net where there is even a map with each one pinpointed.

Currently, there is no required training to use these devices. When they are turned on the machine gives the person using them step-by-step instructions on how to use them.