

End of life care policies & procedures revised

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admitted to a hospital. This has changed and continues to evolve. It includes specifically identifying palliative patients and making sure the appropriate care is provided in the right place whether that is at home or in hospital. “

Policies and procedures dealing with end of life care and allowing natural death have also been revised and ongoing education is part of the process. “We encourage health care providers, including physicians, to

talk with their patients openly and clearly about end of life care. The talk can be difficult, however, it does make a difference for patients, friends and families,” says Malcom.

In addition, the opening of the District's inpatient Palliative Care Unit to help with symptom management and pain control has also helped immensely.

The reopening of the District's Coronary Care Unit (CCU) is a factor that has also helped to reduce the HSMR. Patients with heart attack and

heart issues are the focus of the unit and the specialized care in the appropriate setting is better for patients. “We know that care in a setting like this is essential,” says Dr. Paul MacDonald a District Cardiologist. “The Coronary Care Unit is one piece of the puzzle, a very important piece that supports better outcomes for our patients.”

Mr. Malcom also told Victoria County Council about an exciting partnership project with Emergency Health Services (EHS) Paramedics and the District which is also showing

by a Paramedic.

“If you have symptoms of a heart attack or even think you need an ambulance, don't hesitate to call 911 first,” says Brian MacDonald, the EHS Clinical Development Paramedic for the Cape Breton Region.

“We work closely with Emergency Physicians from wherever we are on the Island and that team work makes a difference. Patients having a heart attack need to get the clot busting drug as quickly as possible. That means people should call Paramedics for help. If you have symptoms

Local Food Fund focuses on a purposeful society

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Other projects which received funding include: Voices Antigonish which received \$1,260 for a Program Coordinator for projects including the popular “Local Food Box” program.

The North End Community Health Centre received \$2,000 for a North-end Halifax greenhouse for their community garden.

The Shelburne County Women's Fishnet received \$2,000 to establish a Community Garden.

Ecology Action Centre will use their \$2,000 for a demonstration root cellar at the EAC.

The 2010 granting program was made possible through generous donations from Ogden Pond Capital and Dr. Martin. Ogden Pond is a Nova Scotia based Merchant Bank, which supplies funding to emerging growth companies and has developed a dedicated local food industry practice.

The Local Food Fund is an endowment fund held at the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia. It was created by the Local Food Group within Spirit Nova Scotia a grassroots movement focused on purposeful society building with the intention of assuring the society we enjoy in 30 years holds the same spirit as the one we cherish today. It celebrates the Spirit of Nova Scotia as a beacon in our lives and a catalyst for our communities.

The Community Foundation of Nova Scotia is a public foundation created by the people of Nova Scotia to enable effective philanthropy. It works with private donors, communities and charitable organizations to build the financial and social capital that our communities need, both today and tomorrow. It does that by stimulating charitable giving, establishing permanent endowment funds and supporting initiatives that make an ongoing difference in communities throughout Nova Scotia.



District #1 County Councillor Paul MacNeil (L) chats with Cape Breton District Health Authority's CEO John Malcom at a recent County Council meeting.

results with improved treatment time and patient outcomes.

“Our mortality from heart attack has dropped from 11 percent, to 4 percent and we believe the RESTORE program has been another important factor,” says Malcom. “This is a valuable partnership with EHS and it shows that emergency care begins in the community.”

RESTORE is currently the only program of its kind in the Atlantic region and provides pre-hospital care to heart attack patients.

Advanced Care Paramedics responding to a call can link a patient's information with a hospital Emergency Department where a physician can determine if the patient needs a clot busting drug delivered on scene

including pain, a quick response could save your life. Many patients are alive today because they called Paramedics first. Our program is showing proven results with 27 people successfully treated. We are excited about expanding throughout the province in the near future,” says MacDonald.

As the district tracks HSMR it will move in the future to look at finding ways to enhance treatment for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease patients and patients with infections. “We will use evidence based care guidelines and likely start to do some things differently. We know a different approach can often make a difference,” says CEO Malcom.

***I Extend to Everyone a Wish for
All the Best in the New Year!***



Paul MacNeil
Councillor - District 1



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Baadeck Yarns

Baadeck Yarns and staff would like to take this opportunity to thank all our friends & customers for their support over the past year!

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and Prosperous
New Year!**

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for a Happy &
Prosperous
New Year**



*Warden, Councillors and Staff
of the Municipality of the
County of Victoria*