

Professional Paramedic Association of Ottawa /
L'Association Professionnelle Des Paramédics D'Ottawa

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



Top 10 Priorities of PPAO Members

During the 2004 election, members were asked to submit the top 3 issues that they would like to see the PPAO address. Over 130 distinct suggestions were made in 9 areas. The top 10 are;

- Increase public awareness and education
- Retirement age reduction to age 55 or 25 years of service
- Increase community involvement
- Educate city council and other political groups
- Address deployment and staffing issues
- Support public safety officer legislation to include paramedics
- Assist in the creation of a professional college
- Maintain and improve on media coverage
- Secure 100% membership
- Promote paramedics!!

Thank you to everyone who submitted their comments and suggestions.

PPAO Presidential Election Results

This June, the PPAO launched our first official election. We had 16 people nominated to the executive board of the PPAO and 8 of those people declined their nomination. Due to the fact that 8 positions need to be occupied, this resulted in a default Board of Directors.

We reviewed the nominations and canvassed the board in order to determine who wanted to run for president. Four people stepped forward (Mike Cross, Scott Stephens, Stan Morrow and Darryl Wilton) to run for president.

Due to the fact that we do not

have the resources available to staff 24 hour polling stations at every base, a decision was made to provide ballots to every paid full member. Recognizing that the PPAO ballots may be tampered with, another decision was made to assign a name to each ballot. This proved to be very useful after 13 ballots were tampered with and were then found already submitted to the PPAO box. Our plan worked and we were able to provide each of these members with a brand new ballot. NOTE: None of the paramedics listed on the ballots had direct access to any elec-

tion information.

FINAL RESULTS

- Ballots were delivered to 184 eligible voters
- 116 ballots were completed correctly and returned to the PPAO box (63% voter turnout)
- 13 ballots were tampered with and replaced at the request of the owners

After the final count by Secretary Elizabeth Anderson it was determined that Darryl Wilton secured 61% of the vote and will represent the PPAO as our official new president.

Enhancing the Paramedic Profession

The annual Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference will take place at the Ottawa Congress Centre on August 22nd, 23rd and 24th. The Ontario Paramedic Association has been involved with this conference for the last four years and have found it to be a great opportunity to speak to politicians and educate them on our profession.

The PPAO has been recognized by the OPA to be "one of the most active and progressive chapters in Ontario". As a result, we have been asked to manage the booth at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference this year. The OPA booth is manned all day on the 23rd and until 13:00hrs on the 24th

Please respond by EMAIL if you are interested in assisting with the Ontario Paramedic Association's public display and promoting paramedics to key stake holders in Ontario. It is our intention to deliver our message in both official languages. Thank-you.

Child Seat Inspection Clinic

The PPAO is currently working with the City of Ottawa Public Health and Ottawa Paramedic Service Chiefs of Staff to make sure we are a key stakeholder in child seat inspection clinics. We have already obtained authorization to use the new bases as rotating inspection stations. There are 24 paramedics signed up to be trained as inspectors. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the PPAO by email. Let's hope Public Health chooses the PPAO as the sole provider of child seat inspections.

2004 P.P.A.O Contact Information

Executive Board

Name	Position	Phone	Pager	Email
Darryl Wilton	President	xxx-xxxx	xxx-xxxx	president@ottawaparamedics.ca
Scott Stephens	Vice-President	xxx-xxxx	xxx-xxxx	vicepresident@ottawaparamedics.ca
Elizabeth Anderson	Secretary	xxx-xxxx	xxx-xxxx	secretary@ottawaparamedics.ca
Matt Galarneau	Registrar/Treasurer	xxx-xxxx	xxx-xxxx	registrar@ottawaparamedics.ca

Board of Directors

Stan Morrow	Director of Professional Development	xxx-xxxx	xxx-xxxx	development@ottawaparamedics.ca
Mike Cross	Director of Political Affairs	xxx-xxxx	xxx-xxxx	politicalaffairs@ottawaparamedics.ca
Keith Buchanan	Director of Special Projects	xxx-xxxx	xxx-xxxx	specialprojects@ottawaparamedics.ca
Steve Dodge	Director of Communications	xxx-xxxx	xxx-xxxx	communications@ottawaparamedics.ca



Ontario College of Paramedicine

Our Thanks To.....

The new PPAO Executive would like to thank the following members of the interim board for all their hard work and dedication in getting the PPAO up and running over the last year. Scott Stephens, Darryl Wilton, Julie Hindle, Benoit Jolicœur, Doug Ryan, Carl Bowker and Denis Gagnon. The PPAO would also like to send a big thank-you out to the numerous paramedics who have been and continue to be involved in different committees and special events.

Check out the PPAO Merchandise!

The PPAO Merchandise has been posted to the website. Check it out at www.ottawaparamedics.ca and follow the links for the merchandise section. We have golf shirts, t-shirts and fleeces starting at \$15.00 and will be adding more items shortly. If you would like to order PPAO merchandise, download and print a copy of our order form, fill in your contact information, mark the product sizes you want, choose the quantity, and then mark your subtotals and totals. When you are finished, just attach cash, money order or cheque (made out to "PPAO") for the correct amount and put it in the PPAO box (located in the Tremblay HQ lunch room). It takes approximately 5 days to receive your order from the Equipment Controller. If you do not receive your order within 5 days, please notify the PPAO by email at mail@ottawaparamedic.ca



The debate over the need for a Regulatory College for Paramedics has been ongoing since the Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA) was passed over a decade ago establishing "Colleges" to oversee the many medical professional disciplines.

Self-regulation of paramedics through the Ontario College of Paramedics has been recommended by:

1998 - The Land Ambulance Transition Taskforce (LATT)

1999 - The Ontario Hospital Association.

2002 - The Association of Municipal Emergency Medical Services of Ontario (AMEMSO)

2003 - The Provincial Base Hospitals

There is very important information about the Ontario College of Paramedics at www.ontariocollegeofparamedics.ca

Payroll Deduction UPDATE

After meeting with Steve Kanellakos and Anthony Di Monte, it has been determined that the PPAO will have payroll deduction online by September 2004. More information will follow as it becomes available.