



MEDIA RELEASE

November 22, 2022

LANARK COUNTY PARAMEDICS PARTNER WITH TRILLIUM GIFT OF LIFE

The Lanark County Paramedic Service (LCPS) and the Trillium Gift of Life Network (TGLN) have partnered to help save and enhance more lives. After several years of collaborative work, delayed by the pandemic, the tissue referral program launched in Lanark County in October. LCPS has now joined the ranks of many other paramedic services in Ontario that have already successfully implemented this program.

The pronouncement of death outside a hospital occurs daily in Ontario. Historically, out-of-hospital deaths do not result in donation screening, and one's wishes to donate may not be known by family or next of kin. This TGLN referral program helps ensure that in the case of an out-of-hospital death, tissue donation may still be possible, allowing each patient's family to follow the wishes of their loved ones.

Not many people realize that when it comes to tissue donation such as eyes, skin, bones, and heart valves, one person can impact the lives of up to 75 people. "Knowing that one referral phone call can improve or save the lives of many others is very impactful and connects us to our purpose as paramedics," explains Paramedic Chief Travis Mellema. "It is just one more way that Lanark County Paramedics can better serve our communities."

Currently, more than 1,500 citizens in Ontario are waiting for an organ transplant and countless others could benefit from tissue donation. If you would like more information on how to register as a donor, visit www.beadonor.ca.

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