

Hair for Heroes event exceeds goals

By
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Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (DSB) paramedics, DSB staff, MHC nurses and staff and community members raised \$6,400 (at the time of the event \$6,290 was raised, but more funds came in after) for the Canadian Cancer Society

Transportation Program and 315 inches of hair for wigs for cancer patients at the Hair for Heroes event held last week in Little Current.

LITTLE CURRENT—Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (DSB) paramedics and staff, along with area nurses and other staff from the Manitoulin Health Centre (MHC) and community members, exceeded their fundraising and hair collection goals at the Hair for Heroes event held last week in Little Current at the paramedic station.

Organized by paramedic Jess Wilkin, Ms. Wilkin and her DSB paramedic colleagues set out to donate 150 inches of hair to Pantene Beautiful Lengths in honour of Canada's 150th anniversary. Pantene is Canadian-based and donates wigs free of charge to Canadians in need. They also set a fundraising goal of \$3,000 to be donated to the Canadian Cancer Society Transportation Program, which supports volunteers who provide rides for cancer patients to and from their cancer related treatments, free of charge.

Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB employees rose to the challenge and stepped up to donate funds towards the goal.

Nurses from MHC, headed by Amanda Slaughter and Jennifer Hutchinson, also joined the cause, donating hair and raising funds along with MHC staff members.

A number of community members also came aboard, donating funds, and coming out to the event to show their support and even deciding to donate hair on the spot.

The response was overwhelming and a total of \$6,290 was raised for the Canadian Cancer Society Transportation Program. Further funds came in after the event bringing the total to \$6,400. The hair goal was also exceeded, with 315 inches of hair from 23 different donors donated.

"We had five hair dressers who generously donated their time and skills to the event," said Ms. Wilkin. "A big thank you goes out to July Joy of Hair Care at

Home, Linda Case of Hair Trends, Denise Graham of Reflections Hair Studio, Dana Crane of Big Snips and Catherine Joyce.”

Ms. Wilkin also thanked Andrew Orr of Orr’s ValuMart who donated a large portion of the food for the barbecue at the event.

“Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB extends its thanks for all of Ms. Wilkin’s hard work and to all the paramedic staff, patient transport staff, MHC nurses, staff, allied professionals and community members who came out to help and provide support,” states a press release from the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB. “The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB is extremely proud of all of our staff and their community efforts.”