



777 High Street West
Moose Jaw SK
S6H 1T7
Bus: (306)694-2151
Fax: (306) 692-0236
www.moosejawems.ca

For Immediate Release

Date: May 23, 2019

On Tuesday February 19th, 2019 at approximately 3:05pm a local 67 year old male was successfully resuscitated and a return of heartbeat with CPR at a local restaurant after collapsing and experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA).

Moose Jaw Paramedics, Moose Jaw Police Service and Moose Jaw Fire Department responded to the individual after bystanders witnessed the individual collapse and called 9-1-1. Bystanders heard what was happening and they selflessly responded to the emergency to aid in helping the individual with several others present performing bystander CPR.

The following week on February 27th, 2019 at approximately 3:50pm – one of the same Paramedics responding, a local 57 year old male was successfully resuscitated and a return of heartbeat with CPR and the use of a public access Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at a local business after collapsing and experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA). Moose Jaw Paramedics, Moose Jaw Police Service and Moose Jaw Fire Department responded to the individual after bystanders witnessed the individual collapse and called 9-1-1.

"It was the quick action of the bystander and the application of the AED with CPR that resulted in the male patient being successfully resuscitated and transported to hospital." Kyle Sereda, Chief Moose Jaw & District EMS. "We are proud of the actions of all of these bystanders from both incidences and all that helped in the resuscitation.

We further acknowledge all local organizations that participate within this program through the Saskatchewan Health Authorities Public Access Defibrillation (PAD) program by having AED's in their facilities."

Learning CPR and how to use an AED quickly can make a significant difference in helping those survive who may suffer a sudden cardiac arrest...time matters and quick action saves lives. For additional information, please contact Kyle Sereda at our office.

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PUBLIC ACCESS TO AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AEDs) FACTS

- Cardiac refers to the heart. Arrest means stop. Sudden cardiac arrest is the sudden and unexpected loss of heart function.
- Signs of cardiac arrest include: no breathing or only gasping, no movement, and no pulse.
- Up to 40,000 cardiac arrests occur each year in Canada. That's one cardiac arrest every 12 minutes. Without rapid and appropriate treatment, most of these cardiac arrests will result in death. Survival rates double if someone performs CPR and uses an automated external defibrillator (AED).
- An automated external defibrillator (AED) is a small, portable device used to identify cardiac rhythms and deliver a shock to correct abnormal electrical activity in the heart. As a result of the sophisticated electronics in an AED the operator will only be advised to deliver a shock if the heart is in a rhythm which can be corrected by defibrillation. If a shockable rhythm is not detected, no shock can be given and the provider will be instructed to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) until emergency medical services arrive.
- ***When an AED and CPR are immediately available, the chance of survival from sudden cardiac arrest is substantially improved.1 Combined with CPR, the use of an AED may increase the likelihood of survival by 75% or more.***
- AEDs have been used efficiently and effectively in community settings, such as casinos, airport terminals, airplanes, shopping malls, recreation facilities, office buildings and other public locations.2-5
- For every one minute delay in defibrillation, the survival rate of a cardiac arrest victim decreases by 7 to 10%. After more than 12 minutes of ventricular fibrillation, the survival rate is less than 5%.
- AEDs combined with CPR and activating emergency medical services offer the best chance of saving a life in the event of a cardiac arrest.
- Research shows that AEDs are most effectively used by trained individuals. However, AEDs are safe and easy to use by almost anyone. In fact, there are studies showing that laypersons can use AEDs safely and effectively.8 There are also examples of cases where individuals with no training have successfully used an AED in an emergency situation as they are very straightforward to use and self-guiding.
- Any location that has 1000 adults over the age of 35 present per day during the normal business hours (7.5 hours/day, 5 days per week, 250 days per year) can expect one incident of sudden cardiac arrest every 5 years