



John McCormack, left, owner of McCormack's Carstar Collision, and wife Jo-anne, right, recently presented hospital volunteer Debbie McMurray, centre, with a cheque for \$969.23. These funds were raised through a community carwash and will help support hospital initiatives.

Submitted photo

'Soapy' fundraising campaign raises \$969 for new health centre

PARRY SOUND - Carstar Collision Repair Centres across Canada raised \$50,115 for the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and local fundraising groups at the 2nd annual Carstar "Soaps it Up" National Car Wash fundraising campaign.

"Giving back and contributing to the community is a very important part of what Carstar stands for," said John McCormack owner of McCormack's Carstar Collision.

McCormack's will be donating all proceeds from their car wash to the West Parry Sound Health Centre. In total, the local store raised \$969.23.

"Parry Sound is one of the most beautiful spots in Canada, is a very rapidly growing community," said Mr. McCormack.

"And the need for health care will be growing with it as well. So it is important that we are prepared for this growth."

Generous support

"The success of this year's Soap it Up car wash was due to the generous support from the Parry Sound Fire Department, and volunteers from the West Parry Sound Health Centre," he said. "83-year-old Janny van Walsum, a real trooper who stood at the road for four hours

waving everyone in, and all the volunteers from McCormack's Carstar Collision, as well as family and friends who made our day fun."

McCormack's Carstar Collision would also like to thank Giant Tiger who donated all the hot dogs and hot dog buns for the occasion.

Still raising money

The health centre has been fully operational and accepting patients for the last several weeks. The Give in a Heartbeat Campaign has raised over \$7 million to date with funds still pouring in.

Realistic timelines for Highway 69: Minister

However, Parry Sound-Muskoka MPP Norm Miller calls the recently released Action Plan an "in-action plan," saying 12 years is too long to complete the necessary roadwork.

BY STEPHANNIE JOHNSON
Beacon Star Staff

PARRY SOUND - The provincial government recently announced detailed plans for the four-laning of Highway 69 between here and Sudbury in the Highway 69 Action Plan.

The plan was unveiled by Minister of Northern Development and Mines Rick Bartolucci on June 28.

"Through the Highway 69 Action Plan, the Ontario government is doing something no other government has been able to do before," said Mr. Bartolucci. "It sets out open, up-front and realistic timelines so northerners will have a better understanding of when work on sections of this important corridor is planned to begin."

A number of the roadway projects are under way, and are set to be com-

pleted in 12 years. That's a time frame that Parry Sound-Muskoka MPP Norm Miller thinks is far too long.

"This isn't an action plan," said Mr. Miller. "It's an inaction plan. What's more, this is a re-announcement of the safety improvements that were made by the previous government."

Mr. Bartolucci would have called for the Minister of Transportation's resignation had he been in opposition."

The previous government opened the \$72 million Parry Sound bypass in November 2001 and an additional four kilometres of highway in the fall of 2002. In addition, work was started on the remaining 26 kilometres of construction between Mactier and the new Parry Sound bypass.

"Despite what Mr. Bartolucci may tell you, there has been virtually no new work on Highway 69 during the last two years under this government," said Mr. Miller.

The following improvements are planned for the next five years:

- Improvements to the existing highway between here and Sudbury, including the extension of existing passing lanes as well as new ones, paved shoulders, and rumble strips that will be completed by the end of this year;

- Seventeen kilometres of new four-lane construction from just north of Parry Sound to Highway 559 is planned to be completed by 2010.

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In Appreciation & Special Thank You

We greatly appreciate all the personal assistance, care & acknowledge all the work completed for Sid Ransome for the following people:

Dr. Hunkin, all nurses in the Long Term Care at the West Parry Sound Hospital, Nancy Sexton, "The Friends" Mary Gardner, Bev Diette, VON nursing staff, the Parry Sound Cruzers, the Legion veterans, and Hugh Logan and staff. In addition, our many members and friends.

Sincerely,
Myrtle Ransome,
Joan & Don Daynes
& Family

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28A-c