



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DNSSAB EMS Chief to Retire July 31st

North Bay, ON – The Chief of EMS with the District of Nipissing Social Services Board, Jean-Guy Belzile, will be retiring July 31st after 19 years of service.

During the nearly two decades with DNSSAB, Jean-Guy has seen many changes to how land ambulance services have been delivered and how they are funded. Through all the changes, he has ensured that EMS/Land Ambulance services are provided to all citizens of the District, in an efficient and affordable way.

“Jean-Guy Belzile has been a diligent and hard-working advocate of Nipissing District paramedics for as long as I’ve known him, and he will be greatly missed,” says DNSSAB CAO Joe Bradbury. “I’m certain he will continue to work for his community even in his retirement and we all wish him the best,” adds Bradbury.

On a regular basis, he has managed contracts for services with three providers in the area; North Bay Regional Health Centre, Mattawa General Hospital and the Town of Temagami. He has ensured paramedics have modernized ambulances and equipment to do their daily work, and ensures that all qualifications, regulations and response times are met. As a former paramedic, he understands the importance of the job.

Jean-Guy has made positive changes to the communities the DNSSAB serves. Among his accomplishments, he initiated the installation of Automatic External Defibrillators in public places throughout the district, he garnered support for a new EMS station in North Bay, 24 hour service in West Nipissing, enhanced service in Algonquin Park, and helped to bring the paramedicine program to the District.

He has also worked tirelessly to ensure volunteers are properly trained and recognized for their service in the Emergency First Response Teams, who assist in emergency situations in rural areas until paramedics arrive on the scene.

Those in the emergency response business also know Jean-Guy for organizing an annual symposium for the past 17 years so that emergency health care providers and mechanics stay current on new developments.

“We certainly have valued Jean-Guy’s contribution to the DNSSAB and its member municipalities in coordinating, managing and ensuring quality emergency medical service throughout the District,” says DNSSAB Chair, Mark King. “One can’t put a value on the importance of having well-trained and efficient response teams in the event of emergencies,

and Jean-Guy has ensured that the Board is always aware of what needs to be done. He will be greatly missed by every member of the Board but we wish him the very best in the future.”

“It has been my privilege to serve and to contribute in any way I can to enhance services to the Nipissing District community,” says Belzile.