

PRESS RELEASE re: PUBLIC ACCESS DEFIBRILLATOR FOR CURLING CLUB

Thanks to the generosity of ‘The Mikey Network’, Sturgeon Point Golf Club and Fenelon Falls Curling Club will be one step closer to never missing a beat.

The two clubs will share a public access defibrillator which the Network donates for use in as many high risk locations as possible. The cooperation between the golf and curling club will mean both clubs benefit from a ‘Mikey’ defibrillator during their respective seasons.

A defibrillator is an electronic device that delivers an electric shock to the heart through the chest wall during ventricular fibrillation, in order to restore the heart to its normal rhythm. The act of defibrillation, or shocking, is more successful when it is delivered to the victim of cardiac arrest within the first few critical minutes before emergency services personnel arrive. A trained ‘Target Responder’ using a public access defibrillator can increase a victim’s chance of survival by up to 50%. Hundreds of lives are saved each year through a PAD.

The Mikey Network was named for Mike Salem – dear friend and partner in Heathwood Homes and The Heron Group of Companies. In the summer of 2002, Mike was on a golf course in the beautiful Muskokas. He hit his first shot, drove up to his second and then his heart skipped a beat. Miles away from help, Mike passed away doing what he loved best, playing golf. No one knows whether a defibrillator could have helped to save Mike’s life, but in his name, Heathwood Homes and The Heron Group of Companies place ‘Mikeys’ in as many public places as possible, so that other cardiac arrest victims may have a second chance. This is the Network’s first donation of a ‘Mikey’ in the Fenelon Falls area.

Sturgeon Point Golf Club and Fenelon Falls Curling Club will be thanking “The Mikey Network” at the curling club’s annual wine and cheese reception for sponsors on January 16, 2009. For more information on The Mikey Network, or to donate, please visit www.mikeynetwork.com

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