

**Brian Humphrey requested that the following information be sent to Council members via the correspondence package**

Clarification on information already in the community, through the press, Huron County Council meeting held July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and Councilors relaying this incorrect information to residents.

***Inability of Huron County to move ACPs throughout the County because of our Collective Agreement.***

**Correction-** There is nothing in our collective agreement that restricted the management of Huron County EMS, from moving ACPs and/or PCPs to different locations where they deem the service to be necessary. In fact, Huron County EMS did that recently, based on the data provided by Base Hospital, they placed the ACPs in the highest call volume center's, such as Goderich, Exeter, Clinton and Wingham. (Feb.18, 2015 Pkg. pg.4 at Para #3

***Only the major centers have access to ACPs.***

**Correction -** Even though Advance Care Paramedics are based at these high volume locations, they are dispatched to anywhere within Huron County by the centralized dispatching service out of London. Even if a PCP team has already responded, ACPs may be called upon to assist at any time within Huron County or if a patient is in transit.

***Councilor Bernie MacLellan explained the costs of eliminating the ACP program would be up to \$600,000 in severance now or would be 2.3 million dollars (today's dollars) to close the program through attrition, over the next 30 years.***

**Correction -** If these figures are accurate, Councilor MacLellan failed to mention the cost of eliminating a vital service immediately to the community would cost Huron County a 100% of the \$600,000 as the Province would not pay 50% toward severance pay. As costed in today's dollars for the next 30 years at 2.3 million the service would continue and eventually be eliminated but the Province would still be paying 50% of these costs. Note: Any service removed, such as plowing roads, would save money but not necessarily be the best for residents.

***The County could save annually \$177,000 by eliminating the ACP program.***

**Correction -** This program is funded at 50% from the Province and therefore the actual savings to Huron County is \$88,500 per year. Based on the 2011 census Huron County has a population of 59,100 residents, so divided by the number of residents, it costs each Huron County resident a \$1.50 per year to have an ACP program at the current levels and that would be the savings achieved. (Feb.18, 2015 Pkg. pg.6 #6 County Costs)

***The EMS Chief told Council that ACPs and PCPs are able to do the same Intubations.***

**Correction-** PCPs are only trained and licensed to intubate on a patient who has died. ACPs are trained and licensed to perform an intubation on a patient prior to them dying.

***ACPs and PCPs have similar skills.***

**Correction** - In addition to the detailed document (ACP differences doc) provided of ACP vs PCP skills, one of the most important skills an ACP has, among the others, is the ability to fully assess a patient's condition, which will immediately direct them to the best hospital to secure the best treatment for their condition.

**A very simple explanation of the difference-**

A PCP has and provides Basic Life Saving skills to a patient in order to reach a hospital where treatment can begin.

An ACP has Advanced Life Saving and assessment skills that starts treatment on a patient on scene and/or on route to the most beneficial hospital where further treatment can be provided. Their assessment of the patient provides important information to the treating physician in hospital.

***So who wanted to eliminate the ACP service provided to Huron County residents?***

**Not the Consultant**, who was hired to conduct a thorough review of Huron County EMS in order to find savings. Their recommendation about the ACP program was to have a review done by Base Hospital statistics, to see if the ACP program was a benefit to Huron County residents. (Consultant's Report dated Nov. 2013)

**Not the Base Hospital** that reviewed the data 2011-2014 and determined, that it "appeared to be an advantage to survival rates for patients receiving care provided by ACPs." (Feb.18, 2015 Pkg. pg.4)

Given the small savings that could be secured by eliminating this service, it is unclear to us why this became an issue for Huron County Council, other than the anonymous letter placed on Huron County Councilors desks inappropriately, which was fully addressed in detail by staff in discussions at base hospital (Feb. 18,2015 Pkg. pg. 5).