## **News Release**



#### For Immediate Release

Date: January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024

To: Representatives of the Media

From: Tracie Bertrand, Manager of Communications

Subject: Blankets for People 2024 Campaign Launch

Peterborough County-City Paramedics (PCCP), in partnership with the County of Peterborough, the City of Peterborough, One City Peterborough, and Windsor's Drycleaning Centre, is proud to announce the launch of the second annual 'Blankets for People' campaign running from January 8th until March 15th, 2024. This initiative aims to demonstrate the warmth of our community by supplying essential blankets and sleeping bags to those in need during the winter season.

Relying on donations, we encourage residents in the greater Peterborough area to contribute new or gently used blankets and sleeping bags. Drop-off is available starting on January 8th at Windsor's Drycleaning Centre, situated at 655 Parkhill Road West in Peterborough. Donated items will be professionally cleaned by Windsor's at no cost and delivered to the Trinity Community Centre at 360 Reid Street in Downtown Peterborough. Donations will be accepted until March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Individuals seeking a blanket or sleeping bag can simply visit the Trinity Community Centre and approach the helpful staff without any formalities. They will receive a clean blanket or sleeping bag, with no questions asked. 'Blankets for People' ensures a barrier-free environment, where anyone in need can receive assistance, and the compassionate staff of One City Peterborough maintains a non-judgmental atmosphere. Blankets will be available for pick up until March 15th.

A heartfelt thank you to Windsor's Drycleaning Centre for generously donating their time and services, ensuring that all blankets and sleeping bags are clean and ready for distribution. This winter, demonstrate our community's warmth by contributing a blanket or sleeping bag and making a difference in the lives of those in need.

New this year, with the generous support from all eight townships, Peterborough County residents are encouraged to attend the 'pop-up' drop off and pick up locations taking place throughout the duration of this campaign. Peterborough Paramedics and

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Peterborough County staff members will be attending one Public Skate session in each township, where residents can "Fill the Ambulance" with blanket donations. This 'popup' location will also be a chance where any individual in need can pick up a freshly cleaned blanket.

### **Township of Cavan Monaghan**

Cavan Monaghan Community Centre, Sunday, January 14th from 1:00 - 2:00 PM

#### **Township of Selwyn**

Ennismore Community Centre, Sunday, January 28th from 1:00 - 2:00 PM

### **Township of Havelock-Belmont Methuen**

Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Community Centre, Sunday, February 4th from 1:00 - 2:00 PM

#### **Township of North Kawartha**

North Kawartha Community Centre, Saturday, February 10th from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

### **Township of Douro-Dummer**

Douro Community Centre, Sunday, February 11th from 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

#### **Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan**

Otonabee Memorial Community Centre, Sunday, February 18th from 2:30 - 3:30 PM

#### **Township of Asphodel-Norwood**

Asphodel-Norwood Community Centre, Saturday, February 24th from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## **Municipality of Trent Lakes**

DATE AND LOCATION TBD

"After the tremendous success of our inaugural year, bringing warmth to numerous individuals, we are delighted to announce the launch of the 2024 Blankets for People campaign. Peterborough County-City Paramedics urge everyone capable of making a difference this winter to participate in Blankets for People—an opportunity to share the gift of warmth with those in need within our community. In a time where many lack access to fundamental living necessities, let us unite to create a warmer community for all."

- Craig Jones, Peterborough Paramedics Deputy Chief, Community Programs & Emergency Management

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If you have any questions, please contact Tracie Bertrand, Manager of Communications at <a href="mailto:tbertrand@ptbocounty.ca">tbertrand@ptbocounty.ca</a> or 705-743-0380 ext. 2502.