

Royal Canadian Legion donates medical bags to Shelburne and District Fire Department



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The Royal Canadian Legion is continuing a pattern of community support in Shelburne, this time with a \$4,459 donation, including medical bags to the Shelburne and District Fire Department.

The newly donated bags are expected to play a practical role on the front lines, helping firefighters deliver more consistent emergency care.

Shelburne Fire Chief Dave Pratt said the department is extremely grateful for the Legion's continued support.

"The Legion and the Legion Ladies Auxiliary have been fantastic supporters of the fire department, and we love interacting with them," he said. "It's a perfect relationship, honestly, a symbiotic relationship where they help us, and hopefully, we can help them."

The donated equipment will be used to standardize medical loadouts across all fire engines in the department, ensuring crews have the same tools readily available no matter which vehicle responds to a call.

"With these medical bags that we've been gifted, we're going to standardize," Pratt said. "We have five apparatus, so we're going to make sure all of our medical bags are the same in equipment. That way, it doesn't matter what truck you're in, the medical bag is going to be identical. We're trying to mirror the bags to be similar to what Dufferin EMS have, so that way it doesn't matter who needs it. If they need something from our bag, it's super easy and consistent."

That consistency is expected to improve coordination between fire crews and paramedics during medical emergencies, allowing for smoother transitions in patient care and reducing delays in critical moments.

While the donation itself marks a tangible upgrade in equipment, it also reflects a broader, ongoing relationship between the Legion and local emergency services.

Branch 220 has supported the department in the past, including previous contributions of defibrillators — life-saving devices that are a standard part of emergency response. The Legion confirmed its ongoing support for the Shelburne Fire Department in a statement

prepared for the donation ceremony.

?The donations go to help veterans and the community at large,? the statement read. ?The grant is on behalf of the Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Provincial Command Branches and Ladies Auxiliary Charitable Foundation.?

Rather than a one-time gesture, the Legion's continued involvement highlights a sustained commitment to community well-being. Through repeated donations to emergency services, the organization is playing a meaningful role in enhancing public safety in Shelburne.

With the addition of the new medical bags, firefighters will be better equipped to provide consistent care on scene ? another example of how community partnerships can translate into real-world impact when seconds matter most.