## COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE:

## EXPANDING INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM MODELS TO ENHANCE CLIENT CARE IN RURAL SETTINGS

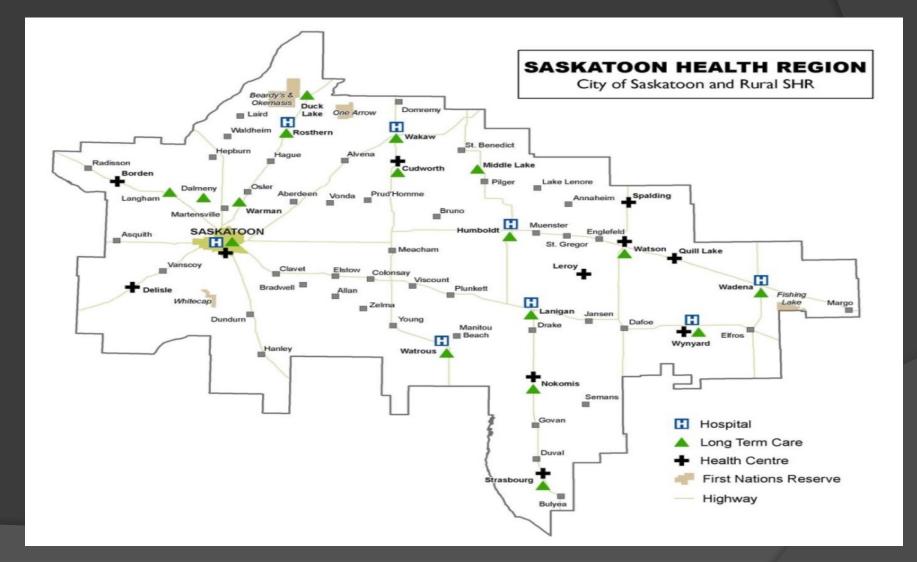
Kelly Tokarchuk Home Care Manager

Kelly Prime ACP, Paramedic Chief

**Sherri Julé** Manager, Pre-hospital Emergency Medical Services

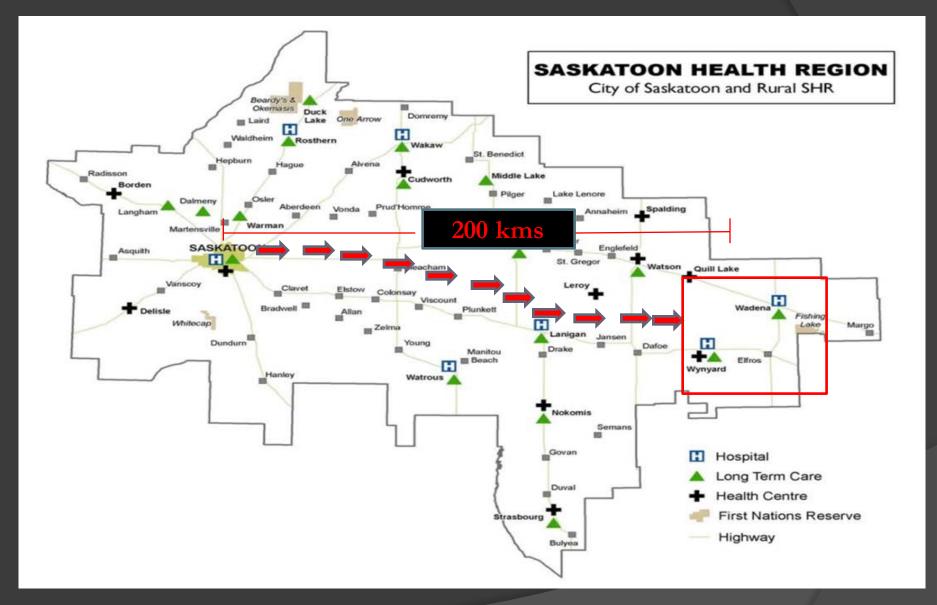


#### Community Care in the Rural Setting – Challenges and Thinking Out of the Box



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#### **Rural Community Care Objectives**

#### Challenges

- Staffing Levels
- Access To Resources

#### Collaborations

- Community Paramedicine
- OT/PT
- Facility

# **Community Paramedicine**

### Background

 "The future of EMS in Canada is providing mobile primary health care as defined by the needs of each community" The EMS Chiefs of Canada

• Focus on community prevention & wellness

• Enables EMS professionals to work at their full scope of practice

 Collaborative work with healthcare professionals & community leaders to assist in the delivery of care in a variety of services

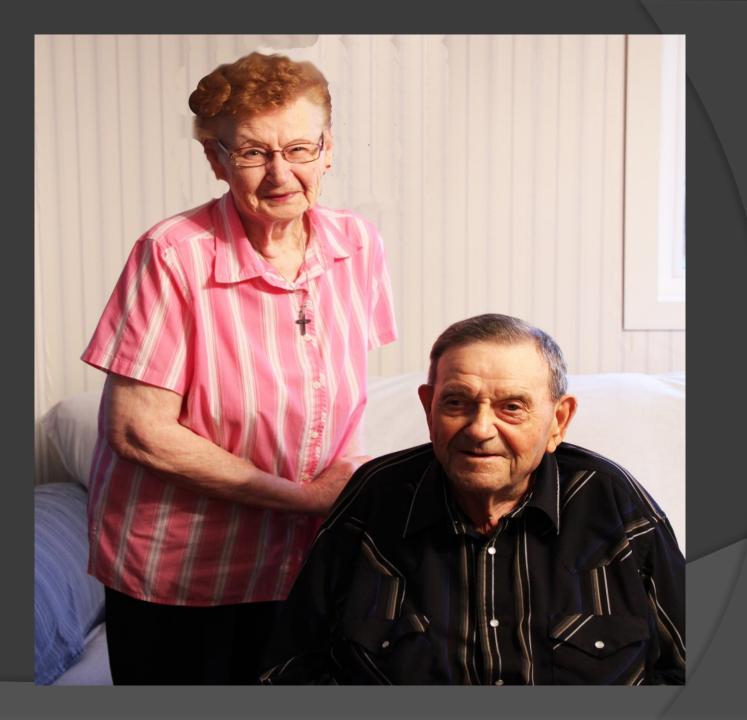
# Community Paramedicine Paramedic Roles

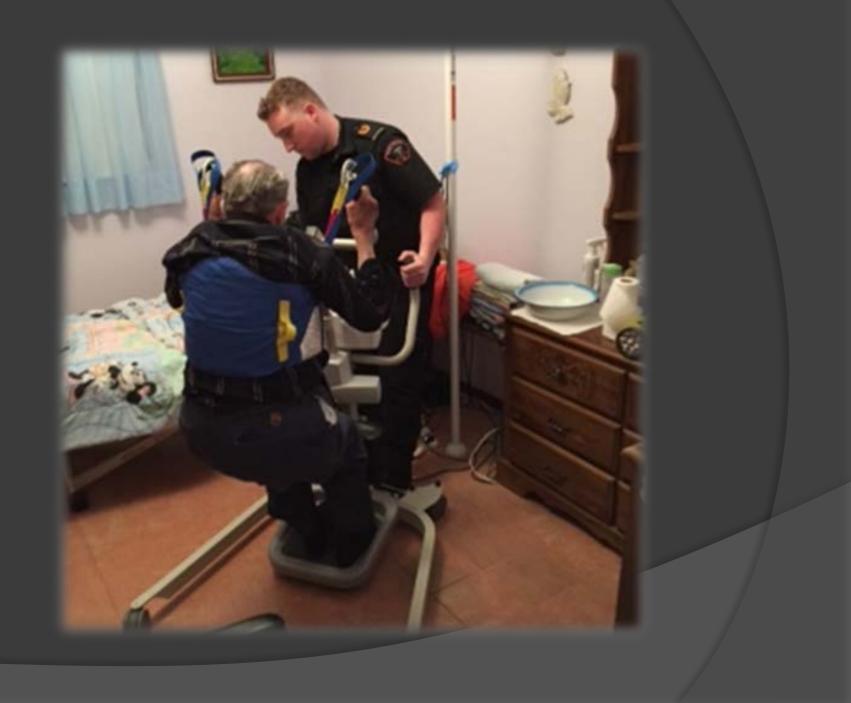
- The traditional role of Paramedics has expanded into the communities they serve, some of the additional initiatives that they are involved in are:
  - Vital Signs / Glucose Testing
  - Assessment / follow-up
  - Transfers
  - Assessments
  - IV Hydration
  - IV Antibiotics
  - Phlebotomy
  - Enhancement of Support in Acute Care
  - Fall Prevention
  - Medication Assist / Pain Management
  - Influenza Immunization

# **Community Paramedicine**

#### Midway Ambulance Care - Wynyard

- One primary ambulance for emergency calls and interfacility transports.
  - one secondary ambulance as a mechanical back up
- Three full-time Primary Care Paramedics (PCP)
- One full-time Intermediate Care Paramedic (ICP)
- One Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP) works in a Rover vehicle in order to respond to critical and community care needs
- Two casual PCPs and one casual ACP are available





# Challenges

#### Staffing Levels

- In this town we have 7 CCAs with positions and casual staff to cover approx. Care with Adolf = 44 hours per week.
- Recruiting
  - Difficulty with recruitment and retention
- Access to Resources
  OT/PT

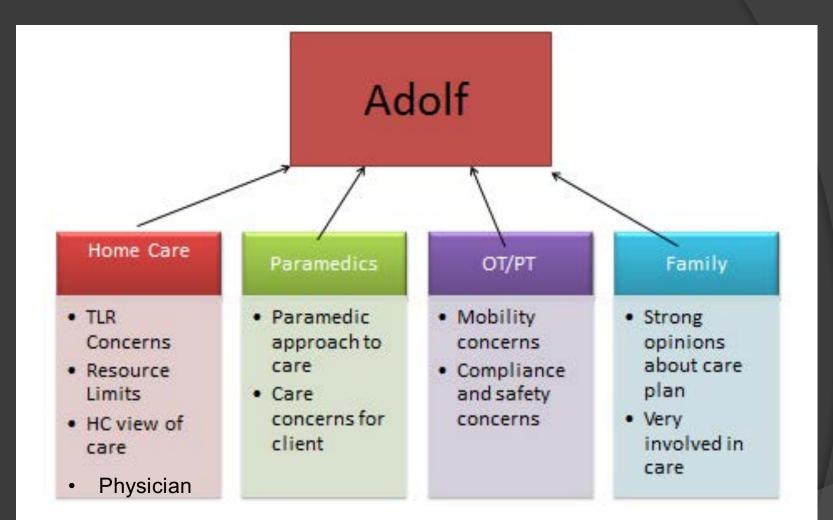
### Collaborating for Developing Solutions

### Community Paramedicine

- Full Scope of Practice Paramedics
- Relationship with Home Care
- Relationship with the Family

#### OT/PT

- Team approach for reassessing care needs of client.
- Assessment of equipment and care planning



## Adolf

#### Home Care

- TLR Concerns
  Resource Limits
- HC view of care

#### Paramedics

- Paramedic
  approach to care
  Care concerns
- for client

#### OT/PT

 Mobility concerns
 Compliance and safety concerns
 Prairie Mobility

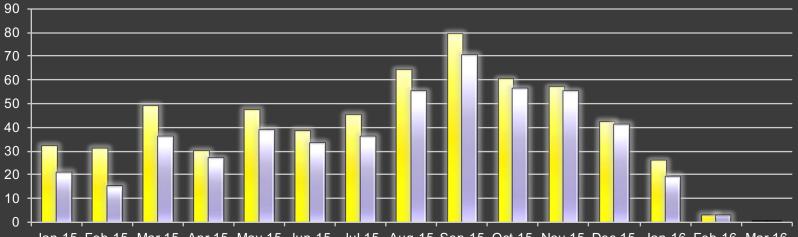
#### Family

- Strong opinions
  about care plan
- Very involved in care

## **Community Paramedics**

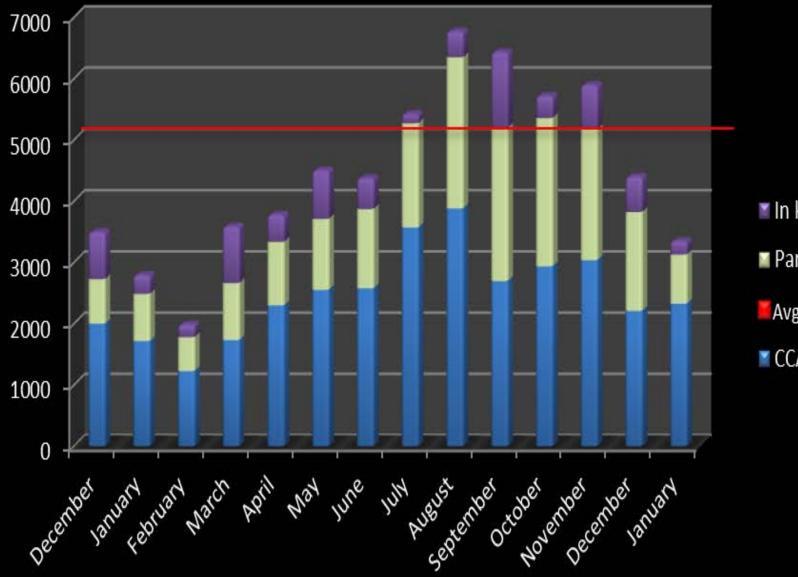
Midway Ambulance Care Ltd. **Community Paramedicine Lift Assist Home Care Project** 

> Total Requests Total Requests Accommodated



Jan-15 Feb-15 Mar-15 Apr-15 May-15 Jun-15 Jul-15 Aug-15 Sep-15 Oct-15 Nov-15 Dec-15 Jan-16 Feb-16 Mar-16

### **Cost of Care**



In kind Paramedics
 Paramedics
 Avg Cost of LTC
 CCA Cost

## **Present/Future Collaborations**

- Community Paramedicine
  - Palliative Care
  - Home IV programming
  - Community Phlebotomy
  - Post Discharge from Hospital Assessments
  - Medication Assists
  - Fall Prevention
  - Wellness Clinic

## Learnings/Next Steps

O not let the perceived lack of resources prevent you from providing services

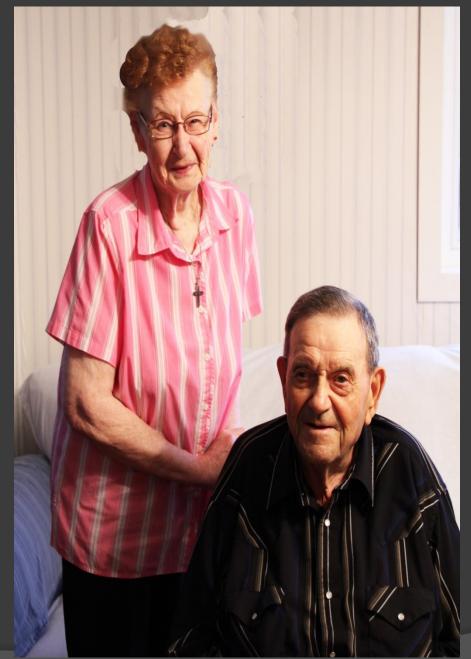
Embrace extending the circle of care to nontraditional care providers.

 Continued team building between Home Care and Paramedics

Post Collaboration Survey

 "The only thing a person cannot do is bite their own ear"-Margaret





#### In Loving Memory of Adolf

1928-2016