



Pictured above: founding members of United by Trauma Sam Reid of Glass Tiger, Nicole Taylor, D/C James Ward, and MPP Frank Klees, with Ernie –Trauma therapy dog.

INAUGURAL FIRST RESPONDERS DAY ON 1ST OF MAY 2014

Perseverance paid off for MPP Frank Klees, when his proposed First Responder's day bill was passed in the Ontario Legislature on the 10th of December 2013. Klees had proposed the bill, which had received unanimous support of all three parties in the legislature, in September 2012. The bill was delayed when legislature was prorogued by the Liberal government. When legislature sat again on the 28th of February 2013, Klees re-introduced the bill.

"The bill I have just introduced for First Reading is identical to the one that received the unanimous support of all three parties when it was debated on October 4th of last year. Given that all three parties supported the bill at Second Reading prior to the legislature being prorogued, it is my hope that we can get unanimous consent to move the bill to Third Reading without further debate and have it proclaimed into law." said Klees at the time.

Klees and all first responders, medical personnel and military were rewarded when the bill passed through legislature on December 10th 2013. Klees credits his constituent Vali Stone for the inspiration for the bill after she presented him with her book entitled, '911-True Tales of Courage and Compassion' in which she documents real life episodes of First Responders.

"On behalf of our First Responders, who include police officers, firefighters, military personnel, paramedics, medical evacuation pilots, dispatchers, nurses, doctors, emergency medical technicians and emergency managers," said Klees. "I want to thank my colleagues in the legislature for their support of this bill. Without their unanimous support, this would not have been possible."

Frank met with representatives of United by Trauma, who are again hosting I Run and Rock at the Ray Twinney centre this year on may 31st to discuss the inaugural day. Frank wants to start the month with a celebration of all first responders. The month of May also celebrates nurses week, EMS week and Police week. The whole month culminates with I Run & Rock; a 1, 5 or 10k run and concert featuring first responder bands and Glass Tiger with special guests.

MPP Frank Klees hopes to see as many first responders as possible attend Queen's Park on the 1st of May this year to celebrate the inaugural First Responder's Day. A kick off reception and recognition by all party leaders during session is to be expected. Lets celebrate all of our fellow first responders, medical personnel and military together!