



For Immediate Release  
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### **KDSB Northwest Emergency Medical Services is 'Celebrating Successes' during Paramedic Services Week**

Paramedic Services Week is May 26 to June 1, and Northwest Emergency Medical Services (NWEMS) is proud to promote the theme: 'Celebrating Successes'.

NWEMS paramedics provide compassionate medical care for those who call 9-1-1 in the District of Kenora. Paramedics also play a significant role in public education and promoting healthy communities.

"NWEMS has taken the lead on a unique initiative called the 'Peer Support Team'. This team strives to improve the emotional wellness of peers in the workplace, available internally to all KDSB staff. Support is available 24/7, 365 days a year to make sure that in a time of need, every individual feels supported," says Andrew Tickner, Director and Chief of Emergency Medical Services at the KDSB. He continues, "I am incredibly appreciative of our EMS staff. NWEMS paramedics work hard to provide the best outcome for patients in our District. Our paramedics frequently go above and beyond by providing exceptional service, continuously advancing qualifications and skills and instill a sense of community pride in everything they do."

NWEMS has observed a District-wide call volume increase of 22% since 2014; recently, an additional crew has been added to the Kenora base, which will help ensure that NWEMS continues to provide the best care in its communities. NWEMS has also had a busy start to the 2019 hiring season, adding 14 new paramedics to its complement.

The practice of paramedicine provides many challenges, but also offers many reasons to celebrate. Additional information about Paramedic Services Week and this year's theme can be found here: <https://www.paramedicchiefs.ca/paramedic-services-week-2019>.

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