

Police and hospital join for emergency exercise

At a public forum into the death of Lucy Pedoniquott who died of exposure after leaving the Wiarion Hospital on foot, representatives from both the OPP and the Wiarion Hospital both stated they were going to work together to continuously improve searches for miss-

ing people."

As part of that promise, hospital management and staff, Bruce Peninsula OPP and the OPP Emergency Response Team held an exercise last Wednesday that put in place search policy and procedures from both places.

Margaret Sadlon, Bruce Peninsula Site Director said a scenario was set up where a hospital patient went missing. Following hospital guidelines an initial search was done. Then a call was made to OPP Sgt. Arden Farrow, who was duty Sgt. at the time of the exercise. OPP

search procedures were implemented and the Emergency Response Team under the direction of Sgt. Rob Huntley.

"Hospitals regularly test out emergency responses. This one is a follow up to the public forum held at Cape Croker in regards to Lucy Pedoniquott," said

Sadlon.

Huntley explained that the ERT also trains on a regular basis but "quite often we don't get involved with the groups we deal with. This exercise lets us work together with the hospital."

The exercise was treated seriously. "We are treating

it just like it is actually happening," said Farrow.

After the exercise was over, a debriefing meeting was held with all those involved to discuss how the exercise went.

"It is a unique venture to be doing this jointly... everyone benefits," said Sadlon.



Above, OPP Sgt. Arden Farrow and Site Director Margaret Sadlon check charts on how the search is going.



Sgt. Farrow discusses the process with Val Marcella - Patient Care Manager (left) and Paulette McCullochy, the RN in charge.

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