

Schomberg blood clinic important to Canadian Blood Services

By Mark Pavilons

The Schomberg blood clinic has proven to be a valuable community asset to the Canadian Blood Services.

The next clinic at the Trisan Centre takes place Tuesday, Oct. 18, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Previously serviced by a mobile trailer, the regular clinics began roughly a year ago and they've been quite successful.

Elaine St. Pierre, territory manager for York and South Simcoe for Canadian Blood Services, said in 2015, they collected 102% of their target in Schomberg, something she called an "outstanding achievement. It demonstrates what happens when a community comes together."

She pointed out that 21% of local donors are first-time givers, a critical aspect to sustainability.

St. Pierre praised the efforts of Mayor Steve Pellegrini, Councillor David Boyd and Fire Chief Jim Wall for spreading the word and encouraging people to give.

St. Pierre urges everyone who's eligible to please donate, and encourage others to do the same. They are still looking for approximately 50 more donors. She will be at the Foodland on Oct. 8 from 9:30 a.m. for a couple of hours, handing out cookies and trying to encourage more residents to come out.

The need is constant and Canadian Blood Services runs clinics every day of the year, except Christmas Day.

She thanked King councillors and the community for helping to create a base of donors locally.

Pellegrini thanked St. Pierre for working so hard to create awareness in King.