

Health posted December 6 2013 by Ben Gumienny

Clear! Okanagan Students Trained in Advanced CPR



Daniel moves clear of the defibrillator as his partner Takiya looks on

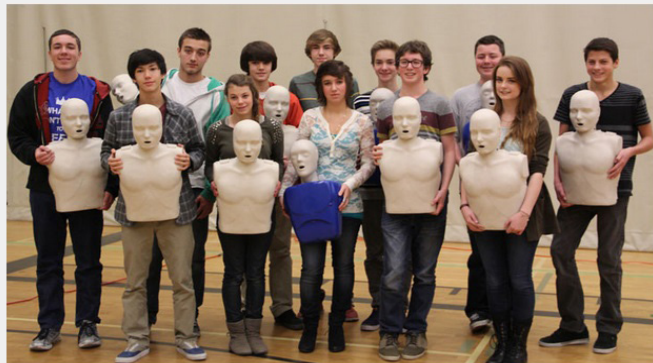
Local high school students will be receiving increased responsibility in aid of saving lives.



KSS Student Lily runs through the CPR drill

Starting this year, 1900 students will be trained in Okanagan each year in defibrillator (AED) use and Kelowna Secondary School was one of the first 50 schools to receive the dual CPR/AED training. Students participated in the Advanced Coronary Treatment (ACT) High School Defibrillator Training Program under the guidance of some of the 245 teachers province-wide who were trained to deliver the material.

According to Kelowna cardiologist Dr. Nick Balfour, there are 2500 ambulance calls for heart attacks each year and the survival rate has doubled in the last 7 years as the method of CPR has evolved.



KSS students hold up some of the 28 mannequins donated to the project

Early CPR, combined with the use of a defibrillator within the first few minutes, can improve survival rates for cardiac arrest victims by up to 75 per cent, according to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.