

Media Advisory

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NEARLY 60,000 ONTARIANS ADD THEIR NAMES TO THE ORGAN DONOR REGISTRY

TORONTO – From July 1 to September 30, 2017, 57,747 people joined the growing list of 3.9 million Ontarians who have registered their consent for organ and tissue donation.

Since 2008 when Ontario adopted an affirmative donor registry, the registration rate has doubled, increasing from 16 per cent to 32 per cent today.

“This success reflects both the progress made and the work still to be done to help those waiting”, said Ronnie Gavsie, President and CEO, Trillium Gift of Life Network. “When the majority of Ontarians are registered, and our registration rate exceeds 50 per cent, that is when we will have achieved a true culture of donation in the province.”

In the last quarter St Marys reached the milestone of having half its eligible population registered, joining 20 other communities with a 50 per cent or higher registration rate.

Communities with the highest rate of growth over the past three months include: East Gwillimbury (4.42 per cent growth); Hawkesbury (3.54 per cent growth); Port Stanley (3.13 per cent growth); Lindsay (2.95 per cent growth); and Aylmer West (2.89 per cent growth).

New registration data for 170 Ontario communities is now available at www.BeADonor.ca/scoreboard. Find out how your community is doing.

FAST FACTS:

- Donor cards are no longer in use. Register and learn more about donation at www.BeADonor.ca.
- Today there are 1,500 people waiting for a life-saving organ transplant and every three days someone will die waiting.

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Trillium Gift of Life Network is a not-for-profit agency of the Government of Ontario responsible for planning, promoting, coordinating and supporting organ and tissue donation for transplantation across Ontario and improving the system so that more lives can be saved.