



**St. John Ambulance**

**SAVING LIVES**  
at work, home and play



## Press Release

### First Aid Gator – Fundraising Priority for St. John Ambulance

St. John Ambulance – Mississauga – May 12, 2009 – St. John Ambulance is holding a fundraising Dance Party at the Vic Johnston Community Centre on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, with monies raised to assist in the acquisition of a First Aid Gator for its Medical First Response Team. The gator transport unit will expand the Branch's emergency support services to off-road trails and will assist in the transportation of patients to a first aid post or to a waiting ambulance. Although the Branch's bike response team is an excellent resource that can rapidly access patients, they presently are unable to offer transport for a patient from an off-road location or to facilitate a more timely handoff to Emergency Medical Services.

At the moment, the Mississauga Branch must look to borrowing units from neighbouring St. John Ambulance teams when they attend events such as the Mississauga Marathon. With so many events happening in the city each year, having their own equipment would be an invaluable addition to the team.

The recent Mississauga Marathon was a prime example of the urgent need for such a unit. On a number of occasions, runners needed to be transported from the race to a more secure location. Fortunately, the borrowed equipment was available, however with the increase in events and the lack of a guarantee that a unit will be available when needed, it is imperative that the Branch have its own.

In addition to raising funds for the First Aid Gator Unit, an accompanying trailer to transport the vehicle to events is also required. An enclosed trailer would protect the unit from the weather and also act as a storage facility.

**For more information on St. John Ambulance donations, volunteer opportunities, community services, training programs as well as available products, please call 905-568-1905 or visit our web site at [www.sja-mississauga.ca](http://www.sja-mississauga.ca).**

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*St. John Ambulance is dedicated to improving the health and the safety  
of the community through training and community service.*

*Saving lives – at work, home and play.*