



PRESS RELEASE

January 27, 2016

Renfrew Victoria Hospital and Bell Canada are pleased to announce the release of a new Mental Health Application for mobile devices on “Bell Lets Talk Day” - January 27, 2016.

The idea of providing increased knowledge of mental health issues to paramedics and first responders was initiated by Dr. Lori Gray, a clinical psychologist working with the Toronto Paramedic Service. In her work she realized that a gap existed in the current paramedic training educational curriculum and the increasing number of mental health issues paramedics were responding to.

With a generous grant from Bell Canada "Let's Talk" the creation of a mobile APP to support front line emergency personnel was initiated.

This mental health APP was created and developed by **Preemergency Inc**, in collaboration with the health care staff at Renfrew Victoria Emergency department and the Renfrew County Paramedic Service.

This Mental Health App will serve to support and provide first responders with quick, easily accessible mental health information/resources on mobile devices.

Accessible information will include:

- Approach and Assessment to the Mentally Ill Patient
- The Ontario Mental Health Act as it pertains to first responders
- Common Mental Illnesses
- Medications associated with Mental Health Illness
- Mental Health Social Support Services that are available in Renfrew county.



Quote From Chief Michael Nolan of the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service

“As Paramedics are on the front lines of health care in Canada, we respond to support people in crisis everyday.

The information available in this the Mental Health APP will provide *just in time, critical information* to Paramedics while supporting individuals and families experiencing mental health challenges.

Ensuring that Paramedics have access to these evidence based decision support tools and techniques will ensure consistent diagnosis, support and treatment for people in the care of Paramedics experiencing a mental health crisis.”

Chief Michael Nolan
County of Renfrew Paramedic Service

Quote From CEO Randy Penney of Renfrew Victoria Hospital

For our staff and our physicians we are excited to be part of this project. More importantly for our patients and their families it will mean our clinicians will have improved access to information to enhance the care we can provide.

**Randy Penney
CEO Renfrew Victoria Hospital**

Quote From President Dean DiMonte of Premergency Inc.

We are exceptionally pleased to have created this mobile app technology for the Bell Lets Talk project. It’s imperative that mental health is acknowledged and understood, and we are proud to have a hand in aiding our first responders with this app.

**Dean DiMonte
President
Premergency Inc.**



The new application is set to be released on Bell Let's Talk Day, January 27. It will be available on Google Play, as well as the Apple App Store (following approval period).

For more information, contact Dean DiMonte, President of Premergency Inc.

www.premergency.com

A red rectangular graphic with white text and icons. At the top left, it says 'Mental Health App'. In the center is a white silhouette of two heads facing each other, with a brain inside the top head and a caduceus symbol connecting the two heads. At the bottom, it says 'PREMERGENCY.COM'.

PREMERGENCY

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Let's Talk

RVH
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