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Local dentist does his part to help organ donor awareness

Teeth whitening program runs through April

Posted By Ron Giofu/The Amherstburg Echo

Posted 1 year ago

AMHERSTBURG — A local dentist is one of five in the Essex County and Windsor areas participating in a teeth whitening program that, in turn, helps raise awareness and donations for organ donations.

Dr. Michael Slipchuk is one of the dentists who have partnered with Sport Fest Windsor, with the latter having partnered with the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Sport Fest Windsor is a non-profit organization started by co-chairs Roger and Tom Awad. They started the group to promote organ donor awareness through sports and cultural activities as well as promoting healthy lifestyles and being active. For Tom Awad, this cause is particularly personal.

"I had a liver transplant in 2002. It saved my life," said Tom.

They complimented the dentists for helping out and said they are compassionate in doing so. Other dentists involved include Dr. Gary J Remillong and Dr. Michael F. Bencak in Tecumseh, Dr. Domenico Paonessa in Windsor and Dr. Luminita Fulga in Windsor. Awad noted that teeth whitening is being offered at 1/3 of the regular price. Proceeds for the April event go, in part, to Sport Fest Windsor to promote organ donor awareness and The Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Windsor Chapter. Cystic Fibrosis patients often need double lung transplants for full recovery, Roger Awad noted.

Amherstburg resident Mike Kane is another that will be taking part in the teeth whitening program. For him, it hits home as well.

"It's great. I'll be having my teeth done," said Kane. "I had a liver transplant 2 1/2 years ago. Dr. Mike can see the difference in me."

Both Awad and Kane say that although they do not know their donor families, the families are heroes to them.

For more information, visit www.sport-fest.ca.

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