

Clayton double-lung transplant recipient moves to rehab facility

Carleton Place Almonte Canadian Gazette

Clayton resident Dew Rotor is doing well after her double-lung transplant 43 days ago. Suffering from pulmonary fi-brosis, a chronic disease resulting in scarring of the lungs, the 33-year-old underwent surgery at Toronto General Hospital (TGH) in the early hours of Dec. 4. Last Thursday, Jan. 9, Dew learned she was accepted into St. John's Rehab Hospital, located in the province's capital.

The facility is home to Canada's only organ transplant rehabilitation program. According to Rotor family friend Terry Garwood, Dew will be at St. John's Rehab Hospital for at least six weeks, and of course her mother Leslirae (Rotor) will continue to stay in Toronto with her.

Subsequently, the duo will require suitable accommodation for a period of no less than three months while Dew continues her recovery as an outpatient at the hospital.

"Based on other transplant recipients' expenses, the cost of an apartment in Toronto can be between \$2,600 and \$3,000 per month, and they need to be right near the hospital," Garwood said.

A fundraiser, presented by People First of Lanark County (PFoLC) and the Life4Dew Committee, took place on Dec. 14 at the Carleton Place Arena, raising \$2,000.

"A huge thank you to everyone who has helped in raising funds for Dew as well as offered support to her and her family," said Kory Earle on behalf of PFoLC. "You have made a fantastic difference in Dew's life!" Additional donations to offset Dew's expenses, estimated to be \$30,000, have come from area service clubs and organizations, caring individuals and businesses and more. To date, approximately \$14,000 has been raised.

"There have been many expenses to date that have not been covered," Garwood said, "and there will continue to be."

People are asked to consider converting their unused Air Miles into gas cards and sending them to the family by way of Garwood (2128 Algonquin Ave., Ottawa, ON, K2A 0C1).

To make a donation or for more information about Dew, visit www.Life4Dew.ca. (<http://www.Life4Dew.ca>.)



Clayton resident Dew Rotor is recovering after her doublelung transplant Dec. 4 at Toronto General Hospital. Above, from left: Carleton-Mississippi Mills MPP Jack MacLaren