

Kayla Casey, Paying it Forward
Paramedic, Health

Happy Holidays!

I thought I would share what I have organized in the more recent years that I have been working as a Paramedic for Rama First Nation.

A few years ago I took the initiative to organize a staff fundraiser benefiting our community during the Christmas season. We have done things such as monetary collection and donation to the Rama FN Food Bank, another year our collections went to Family and Social Services, and we've also sponsored a family with gifts from their wish list.

For the past three or four years we have collected toy donations for the Orillia Native Women's Group toy drive, and this year has been our best year yet! We had the biggest stack of toys our paramedics have ever collected. Along with our friendly competitors at Rama Police and Fire, the ONWG staff told

us that we were helping support 160 families this Christmas season! Some of our staff who are a little too busy to shop but still want to contribute provide me with cash donations. Not having children, or many children in my family to buy for, this makes my Christmas shopping extra special (and not to mention FUN!)

It's an amazing feeling knowing that we are helping out families in need. And I look forward to organizing this little something extra for the community every year.

Thank you!

Here is a photo of the toys collected from the Paramedic department for 2021, along with a generous amount of gift cards.

