



10th October 2007

Toronto Ambulance Officers deliver a baby in the back of an ambulance

A recent incident in Toronto had a local ambulance crew playing 'stork' for a mother-to-be.

On the evening of October 6th, Ambulance crews from Toronto Ambulance Station delivered a healthy baby girl in the back of an ambulance whilst en-route to hospital.

Blackalls Park mum Rowena Rowbottom was at home with her family when her contractions started. Her last labour was very quick and so this time around, Rowena knew that she didn't have much time.

Ambulance officers arrived within minutes of receiving the call.

She was quickly assessed and loaded into the ambulance en-route to John Hunter Hospital. The ambulance was forced to pull over on the corner of Lake Road and the Esplanade Speers where a baby girl was delivered.

The baby was delivered by Ambulance Officer Angel Parra assisted by ambulance officer Paul Merchant.

'I wasn't really sure if we would make it to the hospital on time and sure enough we were not disappointed,' said Angel Parra, Toronto Ambulance Officer.

"When her membranes ruptured, it was all very quick. The head was out before we really had a chance to do anything" he said.

After turning the mother and new baby over to the care of the hospital nursing staff, the ambulance crew returned to their station responding shortly thereafter to another call for assistance.

For Angel and Paul delivering the baby was a high point in their career.

Ambulance Officers are trained to care for women in labour as part of their ongoing clinical training.

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