



Contact: Evan Krueger
Communications Director
Email: Evan.Krueger@sads.ca

The Canadian Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndromes (SADS) Foundation Statement on Recent Incident Involving Bronny James

Toronto, ON, July 25, 2023 - The Canadian Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndromes (SADS) Foundation extends their thoughts and wishes to the James family following the recent incident involving Bronny James, son of NBA star LeBron James.

Bronny James, a talented basketball player following in his father's footsteps, suffered a sudden cardiac arrest during practice at the University of Southern California. He is currently out of the intensive care unit and in stable condition, according to a family spokesperson. His survival underlines the critical importance of immediate medical intervention, including CPR and the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in such emergencies.

Cardiac arrest can occur unexpectedly at any time and affects people of all ages and fitness levels. It is vital to reiterate that cardiac arrest is a life-threatening event that requires swift and appropriate medical intervention. Our organization is deeply committed to advocating for widespread CPR and AED education, training, and accessibility, which can be the difference between life and death in such situations.

Each year in Canada alone, approximately **35,000 cardiac arrests occur**, with the vast majority happening in public places or at home. Tragically, survival rates are typically low; however, they can double if bystanders initiate CPR and utilize AEDs. This is why we continually stress the significance of these life-saving measures.

While we respect the privacy of the James family during this difficult time, we must take this opportunity to emphasize the importance of early intervention and the accessibility of life-saving tools such as AEDs and CPR training.

We urge the public, schools, sports facilities, and other places of gathering to ensure the availability of AEDs and to promote CPR training. By doing so, we can collectively contribute to increasing survival rates during sudden cardiac arrest events.

We send our heartfelt wishes for a swift and complete recovery to Bronny James and we commend the medical and athletic staff at the University of Southern California for their prompt and effective response during this crisis.

The Canadian SADS Foundation and the U.S. SADS Foundation stand ready to provide resources and support to those affected by sudden cardiac arrest and to continue advocating for the widespread adoption of life-saving measures that can make a crucial difference.