

Former area resident living in Ukraine fundraising to get critical medical supplies to troops

By Zachary Roman

A former Caledon resident who's now living in Ukraine is fundraising to get critical medical supplies to the country's troops.

As Russia continues its illegal and unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, Kevin Leach is leading Project Volya, a mission to get Ukrainian soldiers life-saving resources to survive their fight against Russia.

His Project Volya is bringing Ukrainian soldiers things like hemostatic gauze, which is used to pack into a wound left by projectiles or shrapnel. The gauze helps absorb blood and prevent lethal internal bleeding.

Leach moved to Kyiv, Ukraine in May 2018.

Since the February 2022 Russian invasion, Leach has been working on the ground with local friends to connect incoming medical non-governmental organizations with the resources they need to get established in Ukraine.

On August 11 at 7 p.m., Forster's Book Garden in Bolton is hosting Leach while he is on a visit to Canada, for a presentation on Project Volya.

Donna Forster of Forster's Book Garden said Leach hopes to not only spread the word about the work his organization is doing, but fundraise for it as well.

Forster said what Leach is doing is incredibly important and worthy of support.

??I think it's an incredibly important story, and we all know they need help. And here we have our own (former) resident? who's out there, doing what needs to be done. So really, all the help they can get would be brilliant,? said Forster. ?That's why we agreed to help.?

On the night of Leach's presentation, Forster's Book Garden arranged for the Little Grey Workhorse trailer to be at the bookstore for the evening.

The workhorse is run by Harold and Wanda Janes, who collect no-longer-wanted electronics and sell them, with the proceeds going to charity ? in this case, Project Volya.

Those interested in learning more about Project Volya can attend the presentation on the eleventh, visit projectvolya.ca, or search ?Project Volya? on the crowdfunding website GoFundMe.