To the rescue: 'we weren't going to let that dog die'

BRUCE HALLIHAN The Daily Gleaner May 17, 2018



Among the eight workers from BLT Construction who rescued a dog trapped under a car in downtown Fredericton on Wednesday were, from left, Tony Robichaud, Pier-Paul Losier, Eric Brideau and Tommy Boudreau. Photo: Bruce Hallihan/The Daily Gleaner

downtown street Wednesday afternoon.

Sandra Tremblay was working at Art Jewel inside Isaac's Way when she said she heard "a yelp" coming from Queen Street.

"I was being nosy, of course, so I opened my window to see what was going on," she said.

Tremblay said a medium-sized charcoal dog - "maybe a terrier" - had been struck by a medium-sized car and was trapped under the front wheel on the driver's side.

"There was a man trying to get the dog out," Tremblay said, "but the dog was still yelping and clearly in some discomfort."

The dog's owner was frantic, the female driver was distraught and other onlookers who rushed to the scene weren't sure what to do, she said.

That's when eight men from BLT Construction in Tracadie, who've been working on the new Hilton Garden Inn on Queen Street since September, came to the rescue.

Mary McIntosh, who'd just arrived at the jewelry shop, "heard this squealing, the distinct, heartbreaking sound of a dog being hit by a car."

Out of the corner of her eye, she saw the construction workers crossing the street with purposeful strides.

"They didn't delay," McIntosh said. "They all grabbed a corner and lifted the car off the dog. It was one of those cool, Superman-type moments."

Eric Brideau was one of those workers.

"I've got two dogs. He's got two dogs," he said, nodding towards his co-workers. "He's got one dog ... we weren't going to let that dog die."

"I was working away and I heard that sound and saw all the people turn," Pier-Paul Losier said. "The dog was stuck under the car. I'd never seen that before. We had to do something, so we [helped].

"It was a big relief when we saw the dog was OK."

"At first, the dog was not really doing much," McIntosh said. "But then it scampered to its feet, shook itself and trotted off with the owner. So it was kind of sweet."

McIntosh praised the hard-hat-wearing workers for their swift actions.

"These guys are busy, they've got deadlines ... so I thought it was pretty nice of them to come over. I had no idea they'd be able to lift a vehicle. I should have taken a picture but I was mesmerized."

"It was really a heartwarming thing to see," McIntosh said.