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Emergency Paramedics and Dispatchers: Who we are and what we do!

Greetings to all attending UBCM 2022 in Whistler BC!

Once again this year I am reaching out to you as we approach the annual UBCM. As you know, in BC, over 4500 Paramedics and 270 Medical Dispatchers work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year to keep our communities healthy and safe. As leaders and professionals in paramedic services, prehospital care, public safety, and allies in community healthcare, Paramedics and Dispatchers are an essential resource for municipalities in BC.

The field of Paramedicine has evolved from a simple response to emergencies to a robust and multi-disciplined practice encompassing public safety, emergency response, scheduled and acute transfers, and community-based health initiatives.

As experts in emergency management, Paramedics are uniquely qualified to assist in emergency intervention, culminating in a dynamic and versatile skillset that transcends conventional public sectors. We are now a vital stakeholder in both public safety and community healthcare. Paramedics provide integrated care and relief with hospitals, clinics, public health initiatives, and community outreach work.

As the world evolves and adapts to the universal consequences and reality of Covid-19, our leaders continue to manage an ongoing opioid public health emergency amidst a global pandemic with the constant threat of seasonal natural disasters, such as heatwaves, wildfires and flooding. A unique set of circumstances requires a unique response, and BC Paramedics and Dispatchers are always ready to respond.



What can Paramedics do in YOUR community?

Paramedics in BC provide various services to support community health and safety. Through a multitude of specialties and license levels.

- Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
- Primary Care Paramedic (PCP)
- Advanced Care Paramedic (ACP)
- Critical Care Paramedic (CCP)
- Paramedic Specialists (PS)
- Community Paramedics (CP)
- Emergency Medical Dispatch and Call-taking (EMD & EMCT)

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Our resources are available by land, sea or sky.

- Ambulances
- Paramedic Response Units
- Fixed-wing Aircraft
- Helicopters
- Boats

Services Paramedics and Dispatchers can provide:

- Emergency medical first response
- Scheduled and acute transport of ill and injured patients
- Province-wide service ensuring access to healthcare in hard-to-reach communities
- Provision of primary health care in communities experiencing service delivery gaps
- Community-based care for elderly, indigenous, at risk or vulnerable populations
- Immunization clinics, Covid-19 testing and contact tracing for Covid-19
- Emergency management, including planning, preparedness and response
- Emergency Medical Dispatch and Call-taking, providing over-the-phone medical assistance until resources arrive at the patient's side

Are your Paramedic Services staffing levels meeting demand?

No time is more important than now. As public leaders, you have a critical role in the decisions being made about Paramedic Services in your community. There is no one better informed on what your community needs, and we want to work with you to ensure that you have an adequately staffed ambulance service. We welcome the opportunity to discuss your specific community needs, challenges, gaps and what we can do to improve paramedic services for your citizens.

We encourage you to come visit us at our UBCM booth. If you have any questions about Paramedic Services in your community, please contact me at (250) 319-4713 or troy.clifford@apbc.ca or info@apbc.ca either leading up to, during or post UBCM.

We also welcome you to visit www.apbc.ca and check out our UBCM resources specifically addressing our solutions for your community.

Thank you for your time, and we hope to see you at our booth!

Sincerely,



Troy Clifford
Provincial President
Ambulance Paramedics and Emergency Dispatchers of BC/ CUPE Local 873

TC/sd/MoveUp

