



# Provincial News

Ambulance Paramedics of BC

October 2017

## *President's Update*

Dear Members,

As always, it has been a busy time for your Provincial Executive Board and Committee in the lead up to our annual Convention on the 24, 25 & 26 of October.

We have lots going on at all levels, including but not limited to labour relations, arbitrations, political action and public education. You will be hearing

Paramedics of BC are the front line medical professionals.

Inclusion into the Fire and Police Services Collective Bargaining Act is an issue that arose directly following the close of last year's convention. We look forward to bringing this topic to the fore front at our annual Convention in

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about it all through our reports to convention.

In the recent months, we have had a lot of meetings with government and we look forward to reporting further on that at Convention.

UBCM is also fast approaching in late September, this event will give us the opportunity to meet with mayors, councillors, and government officials from across the province. We also will be promoting our profession and making it clear the Ambulance

October, as this is the appropriate venue for you as members to have informed discussions, debates and direct your executive and the Ambulance Paramedics and Emergency Dispatchers of BC's strategic priorities and plans going forward.

Sincerely,

*Bronwyn Barter*

## *Wildfire Support*



Thank you to all the members who have stepped up to help each other and serve our province during this emergency. An emergency support fund has been created by CUPE BC and CUPE locals, including our own, for affected CUPE members. These funds are available to members and their families who are experiencing a hardship due to the wildfires. For details on whether you qualify and how to request financial support please visit the [APBC website](#) for more information.



Smoke over William's Lake as seen from 580. Photo credit to Brian McNamara.

## Thank You from the Moore Family

"On behalf of the Moore family I'd like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the Ambulance Paramedics of BC, CUPE Local 873 and the Emergency Dispatchers of BC, CUPE Local 873-02 for the death assessment arising from my brother's passing in May.

The funds raised from the members have made a significant contribution to the family. I know my brother would have been pleased and the fact that the funds came from his friends and colleagues makes this contribution to the family that much more special.

We also appreciate how quickly the funds were provided to the family as the estate-related expenses have been considerable in these 3 months since his passing.

Terry was proud to be a paramedic and knowing that he and the family were supported by so many close friends and colleagues in the Ambulance Paramedics of BC gave him a great deal of comfort in his final months.

My best wishes to Terry's many friends in the Ambulance Paramedics of BC,

- Kathleen"

## Temporary Full Time and Acting Unit Chief Postings

A violation of our Collective Agreement.

Recently, the employer posted for temporary full-time unit chiefs and acting unit chiefs in the Vancouver Post.

The expression of interest states the following: *The British Columbia Ambulance Service is looking for Unit Chiefs currently attached to the Vancouver post who are interested in career development in front line supervision. Reporting to the Manager of Patient Care Delivery, the Unit Chief will provide front line supervision and support to Irregularly Scheduled Employees in the Vancouver Post. The interim positions will be created as follows: Unit Chief Responsible for Irregularly Scheduled Employees – West, based out of Station 248 Cordova. Unit Chief Responsible for Irregularly Scheduled Employees – East, based out of Station 249 Surrey. Unit Chief roles will have a focus of direct supervision and support, and will be scheduled following the Delta shift pattern for a 12-month period.*

These postings are a violation of the collective agreement and related jurisprudence. We do not have any language on temporary supervisory positions. We also have a long-standing practice for selection of Acting Unit Chiefs that resulted out of an arbitration. The process can be reviewed in the [Acting Unit Chief Award](#), under the [arbitration](#) section on the [APBC webpage](#). In addition, the employer is attempting to circumvent the language on "clustering" unit chiefs, in violation of the recent [Vince Ready arbitration](#).

It is clear the employer has no interest in working together to resolve issues by their complete lack of collaboration on issues such as this. We will keep you advised of the progress of the policy grievances.

### Convention 2017

*All members in good standing are welcome to attend Convention, however only Delegates have voting rights and their expenses covered by the Union.*

# Community Paramedic Update

New opportunities across our province.

The Community Paramedicine (CP) program is now entering the final deployment phase of the initial 80 FTE positions. Thus far, 76 communities have received the program through 106 new regular part-time positions. These positions equal 57 FTE's implemented so far. Between now and March 2018, the remaining 23 FTE's will be posted.



image source <http://tumblrirridgenews.com>

There will be two new aspects to the remaining positions to be posted: many of the positions will be full-time and the first ACP based CP positions will be implemented. Both the full-time and ACP CP positions will be targeted at rural designated stations. This means new full-time positions and ACP positions in stations who have never before

had this opportunity.

As the CP program continues to grow, its providing new work opportunities for our members, while also having a significant impact in the communities they serve. Reduced number of 911 calls, better in-home health monitoring and community safety awareness are just some of the results seen so far. This program is an example of

what can be achieved through strong municipal and provincial lobbying from the Union and forming a collaborative partnership with the employer to do it right. In the years to come, we expect the CP program to continue to grow, well beyond the initial 80 FTE's already committed.

## A Tribute to Paramedics

The Salmon Arm Silverbacks organization would like to show their gratitude for our membership with an incredibly thoughtful and generous salute to paramedics. On November 17th, the Junior A hockey team will wear special paramedic jerseys during their home game, against the Cowichan Valley Capitals, in honour of the hard work and countless hours of service we provide. The evening will include a ceremonial puck drop and various tributes throughout the night. As if that wasn't enough, the Silverbacks organization have extended an invite to our members and their families to attend the game that night for free. We are incredibly grateful for this humbling and momentous show of support. If you are interested in attending the game, email [info@apbc.ca](mailto:info@apbc.ca).



SALMON ARM SILVERBACKS

**VS**



COWICHAN VALLEY CAPITALS

## APBC Ceremonial Unit

Congratulations to our newest members.

Thank you to all the excellent candidates that applied to join our APBC Ceremonial Unit following our latest EOI. After a rigorous selection process our Ceremonial Executive was faced with the difficult task of selecting only five members to join our unit. Our newest members recently participated in a two-day boot camp where they learned drill and ceremonial procedure including flag party drill and uniform wear and care.

If you are interested in joining our Ceremonial Unit, stay tuned to your APBC email for future EOI's. Congratulations to the five newest members of our APBC Ceremonial Unit! We trust you will represent our membership with pride and professionalism.



From left to right: Tyler Lindal, Rosalene Berg, Joanna Stefani, Tina Frederiksen and Christy Munro



Check out these upcoming events benefiting Honour House – “A home away from home”.



**—THE—  
ADRIAN OLIVER  
MEMORIAL  
RUN**

In November 2012, Constable Adrian Oliver, a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, was killed in the line of duty in Surrey, British Columbia. In the sombre and difficult days that followed his death, Honour House opened its doors to the Oliver family who travelled to the Vancouver area from across Canada to be with family and friends.

In November 2013, in partnership with Honour House Society and Burnaby RCMP, the family and friends of Constable Oliver organized the first annual Adrian Oliver Memorial Run in recognition of his dedicated service and to commemorate and honour all first responders who perished in the line of duty.

The 2017 run will be held at Deer Lake Park in Burnaby, BC. The event will include a barbecue lunch, a raffle, and a silent auction.

**5th Annual  
Adrian Oliver Memorial Run  
November 12th, 2017  
start time 11a.m.**

**In Support of Honour House  
“A home away from home”**

Please sign up early at  
[www.adrianoliverrun.com](http://www.adrianoliverrun.com)



# Play For Honour

Honour House Hockey Tournament  
October 14, 2017 Planet Ice Delta

The Honour House Hockey Tournament is a family friendly event and players of all skill levels are encouraged to take part. We are looking for fun and energetic people to come out and play hockey for a great cause!

In exchange for your fundraising efforts, participants in the tournament will play two hockey games and then enjoy a family friendly pub dinner and the chance to bid on some amazing Silent Auction Items!

To Register or for more information visit:  
[honourhousehockey.com](http://honourhousehockey.com)



All Proceeds Benefit  
Honour House Society

**HONOUR  
HOUSE HOCKEY**  
PLAY FOR HONOUR