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POLICE, FIRE AND PARAMEDIC CHIEFS WELCOME GOVERNMENT OF CANADA ACTION ON IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

(Ottawa) - Today, the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACCP), Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) and Paramedic Chiefs of Canada (PCC) joined together to express their support for the Government of Canada's announcement that a full 20 MHz of 700 MHz spectrum will be designated for public safety broadband use, and that \$3 million will be provided to take initial steps to establish a Public Safety Broadband Network for responders and public safety partners.

"We applaud the Government of Canada's commitment to designate a full 20 MHz of spectrum in the 700 MHz band for public safety broadband use, as well as earmark funds for the creation of the proposed Canadian Public Safety Broadband Network," said Chief Paul Boissonneault, President of the CAFC. "Canadian firefighters, police officers and paramedics must have modern and reliable communications capabilities, including high speed access to data and video, to communicate with each other across agencies and jurisdictions during emergencies. Yesterday's Government of Canada announcement is a very positive step in the right direction."

"We join our first-responder partners in congratulating the Government of Canada's commitment to allocate a full 20MHz of the 700 MHz spectrum enabling the creation of a Public Safety Broadband Network," stated Chief Clive Weighill, President of the CACCP. "We are also highly appreciative of the \$3M investment towards its establishment. This network will significantly contribute towards supporting mission critical emergency management communications and interoperability between responders throughout North America. Coordinated public safety services in emergency situations will ultimately save lives."

"This is an historic day for public safety in Canada," remarked Chief Paul Charbonneau President of the Paramedic Chiefs of Canada. "The full designation of 700 MHz spectrum requested by responders coupled with a significant investment for the creation of the Canadian Public Safety Broadband network for responders are essential to the Canadian Tri-Services' vision of improved interoperability and integrated emergency management. Ultimately, this new capability will improve the ability of emergency responders to protect communities and save lives."

Together, the national associations of Police, Fire and Paramedic Chiefs have long been advocating for a 20 MHz portion of the 700 MHz spectrum and the creation of a dedicated Public Safety Broadband Network to ensure seamless communication among responders. The Tri-Services Alliance also recognizes the strong leadership role the Canadian Interoperability Technology Interest Group (CITIG) has played in bringing this issue to the forefront in Canada. The Police, Fire and Paramedic Chiefs are proud of the success of this important partnership, first created in 2008.

For more information on 700 MHz Broadband for Mission Critical Public Safety Data, visit www.action700.ca.

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