



# CITIG

CANADIAN INTEROPERABILITY TECHNOLOGY INTEREST GROUP  
GROUPE D'INTÉRÊT CANADIEN EN TECHNOLOGIE DE L'INTEROPÉRABILITÉ

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## **CITIG Receives Motorola Solutions Foundation Public Safety Grant to Further Work on Cross-Border Interoperability**

*Grant to support safety education and training programs*

(Vancouver) - Today, during the Seventh Canadian Public Safety Interoperability Workshop in Vancouver, the Canadian Interoperability Technology Interest Group (CITIG) announced it has received a second \$100,000 as part of the [Motorola Solutions Foundation](#)'s Public Safety and Security Institute. The Motorola Solutions Foundation is the charitable arm of Motorola Solutions Inc. As part of this latest allocation, CITIG will hold a Canada-US Bi-National Cross Border Workshop that builds on the recommendations put forward during its successful 2012 cross-border work to improve cross-border operations for responders. The Motorola Solutions Foundation's Public Safety Grants aim to support safety education and training programs for first responders, their families and the general public in the United States and Canada.

"The number one recommendation to come out of CITIG's 2013 cross-border work was to look at ways to overcome regulatory prohibitions for responders to cross borders when responding to emergencies," said Chief Jeff Brooks, CITIG Secretary. "Using radio frequencies and moving people or vehicles across borders presents challenges, but many jurisdictions have found innovative ways to work together. These best practices need to be shared, and work is needed at the bi-national level to reduce barriers and inform government policy. With the help of the grant provided by the Motorola Solutions Foundation, CITIG will be able to continue its work to increase cooperation and hopefully develop national capabilities."

In 2013, CITIG held a series of six regional one-day workshops focussed on:

- **Planning:** Developing near and long term cross border interoperable communications strategy and action plans.
- **Policy Recommendations:** Suggested changes that contribute to overcoming interoperability challenges along the border.
- **Operations:** Identifying opportunities to enhance interoperability through joint activities such as: developing joint SOPs; reviewing technology compatibilities; and conducting joint training and exercises.

These results are being discussed during the Seventh Canadian Public Safety Interoperability Workshop to help inform stakeholders about cross-border challenges. Moving forward, planning has already begun on a two-day event (tentatively next October in a populous border city to be confirmed) that will be called the CITIG Canada-US Bi-National Cross Border Workshop. The target audience for the workshop will include both U.S. and Canadian interoperability leaders and users from emergency

response agencies (law enforcement, fire, paramedics, emergency managers) and key government agencies (e.g., Public Safety Canada, Department of State, Department of Homeland Security, Industry Canada, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Federal Communications Commission). Expect an announcement in early 2014.

“Aligning with Motorola Solutions’ purpose to help people be their best in the moments that matter, the Motorola Solutions Foundation is honored to support first responders and their families through program funding that bolsters safety and education,” said Matt Blakely, director of the Motorola Solutions Foundation. “Through the Public Safety Grants, we partner with programs like CITIG to ensure first responders have access to the necessary tools and resources they need to succeed.”

Through the Public Safety and Security Institute, the Motorola Solutions Foundation serves as an investor, convener and global activator on issues that affect the safety of communities and security of countries worldwide, providing leadership in the sector to drive innovation and grow and engage the network of those interested in these issues.

### **About CITIG**

The Canadian Interoperability Technology Interest Group (CITIG) works to improve Canadian public safety interoperability at home and abroad through collaborative efforts, innovation and leadership. CITIG is a not-for-profit Canadian corporation managed in partnership by the Paramedic Chiefs of Canada, the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs and the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police. Today, CITIG is made up of more than 1,700 volunteers from the responder community, all orders of government, non-governmental organizations, associations, academia and industry dedicated to improving the safety and security of first responders, and the people and critical infrastructure of Canada.

### **About Motorola Solutions Foundation**

The Motorola Solutions Foundation is the charitable and philanthropic arm of Motorola Solutions. With employees located around the globe, Motorola Solutions seeks to benefit the communities where it operates. The company achieves this by making strategic grants, forging strong community partnerships and fostering innovation. The Motorola Solutions Foundation focuses its funding on public safety, disaster relief, employee programs and education, especially science, technology, engineering and math programming. For more information on Motorola Solutions Corporate and Foundation giving, visit [www.motorolasolutions.com/giving](http://www.motorolasolutions.com/giving).

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