

April 6, 2011



Adrian Florea
Manager, Mobile Technology and Services, DGEPS
Industry Canada
300 Slater Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C8



RE: Tri-Services Reply to Comments from Other Parties Regarding Responses to Canada Gazette, Part I (Vol. 144, No. 49 — December 4, 2010), Notice No. SMSE-018-10 — Consultation on a policy and technical framework for the 700 MHz band and aspects related to commercial mobile spectrum



Dear Mr. Florea,

Please accept the accompanying document as the Tri-Services response to comments from other parties regarding *Gazette Notice No. SMSE-018-10*, respectfully submitted by we, the presidents of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP), Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) and Emergency Medical Services Chiefs of Canada (EMSCC).

Thank you very much for your attention, and we look forward to your favourable reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Blair".

Chief William Blair
President, CACP

582 Somerset St. West
Ottawa, Ontario K1R 5K2

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Simonds".

Chief Rob Simonds,
President, CAFC

280 Albert Street, Suite 702
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5G8

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Nolan".

Chief Michael Nolan
President, EMSCC

201-4 Florence Street,
Ottawa, ON K2P 0W7

Enclosure



**Tri-Services Response to Comments by Others
Regarding Canada Gazette, Part I (Vol. 144, No. 49 —
December 4, 2010), Notice No. SMSE-018-10 —
Consultation on a policy and technical framework for
the 700 MHz band and aspects related to commercial
mobile spectrum**

Submitted to:

Manager, Mobile Technology and Services
Industry Canada 300 Slater Street
Ottawa Ontario K1A 0C8

Prepared by:

The Tri-Services Special Purpose Committee on 700 MHz
Broadband for Mission Critical Public Safety Data on behalf of the
Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, Canadian Association of
Fire Chiefs and Emergency Medical Services Chiefs of Canada
and its Public Safety Partners

April 6, 2011

This document forms the Tri-Services Response to comments by others regarding Industry Canada's Consultation on a Policy and Technical Framework for the 700 MHz Band and Aspects Related to Commercial Mobile Spectrum (SMSE018-10) and responds to:

Canada Gazette, Part I (Vol. 144, No. 49 — December 4, 2010), Notice No. SMSE-018-10 — Consultation on a policy and technical framework for the 700 MHz band and aspects related to commercial mobile spectrum

Posted on Industry Canada Web site: November 30, 2010
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The document was sent electronically to: Spectrum.Engineering@ic.gc.ca

This document was compiled using:

Software specifications: Microsoft Office Word, version 2007, SP2 MSO, and then converted to PDF using Adobe Acrobat Pro Extended Version 9.4.2 to a version that can be opened by Acrobat 7.0 and later.

Operating System: Windows 7 Home Premium, 2009.

Inquiries about this document can be sent to Action700broadband@gmail.com, or forwarded to the following Co-Chairs of the Tri-Services Special Purpose Committee on 700 MHz Broadband for Mission Critical Public Safety Data:

Superintendent Bill Moore
c/o: Canadian Association of
Chiefs of Police
582 Somerset Street West
Ottawa, ON K1R 5K2

Superintendent Pascal
Rodier
c/o: EMS Chiefs of Canada
201-4 Florence Street
Ottawa, ON K2P 0W7

Division Chief Michael
Sullivan
c/o: Canadian Association of
Fire Chiefs
280 Albert Street, Suite 702
Ottawa, ON K1P 5G8

The Tri-Services Special Purpose Committee on 700 MHz Broadband for Mission Critical Public Safety Data — representing the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP), the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) and the Emergency Medical Services Chiefs of Canada (EMSCC) — in consultation with a broad range of stakeholders is pleased to submit a response to comments from other parties regarding *Gazette Notice No. SMSE-018-10 — Industry Canada Consultation on a Policy and Technical Framework for the 700 MHz Band and Aspects Related to Commercial Mobile Spectrum*.

This reply to comments from other parties is being made on behalf of the CACP, CAFC and EMSCC and augments our original response to *SMSE-018-10* that is supported by a number of companion organizations, including the Canadian Police Association (CPA), International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), Paramedic Association of Canada (PAC), Canadian Association of Police Boards (CAPB) and Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), among many others.

Overall, the Tri-Services Special Purpose Committee and public safety stakeholders were pleased to see that the majority of responses to *SMSE-018-10*, including at least one Telecommunications company, acknowledged the need to designate a portion of 700 MHz spectrum (many supporting our call for 20 MHz) to be dedicated for public safety use. As well, many submissions recognized the critical nature of public safety and that current commercial systems cannot be scaled or engineered to the mission critical demands of first responders. Further, several submissions pointed to a willingness to partner with public safety and advocated public-private partnerships as the most pragmatic approach for the provision of economical mission critical communication tools necessary for those who protect, respond and react on a daily basis.

As stated in the Tri-Services Special Purpose Committee response to *SMSE-018-10*, the CACP, CAFC and EMSCC will be willing and active participants in the three-phase process outlined by the Public Safety Canada to develop the business case on the needs of public safety broadband for mission critical data communications. The wide variety of approaches suggested by respondents to *SMSE-018-10* will undoubtedly be more carefully examined and considered as that work moves forward.

As alluded to in many submissions, spectrum must be treated as a finite resource and must be used to the benefit of Canadians. The Tri-Services agree with this position and reiterate the following needs of Canadian responder agencies (and broader public safety community)

during the spectrum designation process with a vision to build robust shared systems that meet collective public safety mission critical communication requirements:

- Re-designate 8 MHz of spectrum (currently assigned to public safety but with unspecified use) to broadband use and designate an additional 12 MHz of contiguous (adjacent) spectrum to public safety for broadband use. This would result in **20 MHz being assigned for public safety broadband use** and a total allocation to public safety of 36 MHz — 20 MHz for broadband and an existing 16 MHz for narrowband/wideband (i.e., voice and low speed data). This spectrum *must not* be auctioned. Spectrum dedicated to public safety must be owned by public safety who will, as they move forward, clearly outline the requirements any private sector partner will need to adhere to in building wireless broadband networks with the needs of public safety in mind (i.e., national protocol and interoperability standards as called for in the *Communications Interoperability Strategy for Canada*). By design, these networks (no matter who builds, operates and maintains them) would be inherently more reliable, more robust, more functional and more survivable — to a level that is expected and required to support both local and wide area multi-discipline and multi-jurisdictional emergency response operations. (See Appendix A — Public Safety 700 MHz Spectrum Needs Chart in the Tri-Service’s original submission.)
- **Coordinate the 700 MHz Canadian public safety broadband spectrum with the FCC band plan, including the pending designation of the D Block to public safety** (supported by the U.S. President and members of U.S. Congress). This will ensure that broadband user devices will function on any public safety network and in either country to provide critical cross-border interoperability functionality, and in order to create a larger commercial market for specialized public safety devices thus establishing scale and ensuring lower costs. Furthermore, Canadian information and communications technology (ICT) companies will be afforded with access to international opportunities in this specialized market.
- **Governance of the 20 MHz of 700 MHz spectrum for public safety for broadband use must reside with public safety stakeholders.** Industry Canada is urged to assign governance of that spectrum to a proposed organizational structure that includes representation from the Tri-Services Chiefs Associations and the Canadian Interoperability Technology Interest Group (as outlined in the

Communications Interoperability Strategy for Canada Governance model) through which decisions of national public safety leadership can guide the construction and operation of an interoperable nationwide public safety-grade wireless broadband network. The use of commercially owned and operated 700 MHz broadband networks driven from a business model designed to support general public and commercial user applications and expectations **will not meet the mission critical requirements of our public safety community**. However, the Tri-Service Chiefs Associations and their numerous partners at the local, regional, provincial, territorial and federal levels are extremely interested in partnering with industry to build, manage and operate such networks in partnership, not as a client (i.e., as owners, not renters).

Lastly, as mentioned in the Tri-Services response to *SMSE-018-10*, the Tri-Services Special Purpose Committee on 700 MHz Broadband for Mission Critical Public Safety Data has consulted with (and garnered the support of) a wide variety of stakeholders including responders, academia, industry, government and non-governmental organizations who share a common interest in enhancing Canada's communications interoperability and are dedicated to improving the safety and security of first responders, and the people and critical infrastructure of Canada. Once again, representatives from a long list of organization (see Appendix C —List of Organizations Consulted in the Tri-Service's original submission) were provided an opportunity to contribute, including reviewing this document prior to the April 6, 2011 deadline. As well, Appendix A of this response contains additional letters of support not included in our original submission.

In conclusion, police, fire, emergency medical services and other emergency management professionals and public safety partners must have robust state-of-the-art public safety communications to provide the public with the level of service, protection and security it deserves and expects. Public safety touches every facet of our lives, including the safety of our families and economic growth. A 20 MHz allocation of 700 MHz spectrum will ensure that Canada's citizens will be able to receive the best possible coordinated public safety services, and that Canadian industry has new opportunities to be competitive in this important domestic and global market. Responders need the right tools to protect and save lives. Public safety's voice *must* be heard.

**Tri-Services Response to Comments by Others Regarding Canada Gazette,
Part I (Vol. 144, No. 49 —December 4, 2010), Notice No. SMSE-018-10 —
Consultation on a policy and technical framework for the 700 MHz band and
aspects related to commercial mobile spectrum**

Appendix A — Additional Support Letters not included in Original Submission



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

HAROLD A. SCHAITBERGER
GENERAL PRESIDENT

THOMAS H. MILLER
GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER

SCOTT MARKS
ASSISTANT TO THE GENERAL PRESIDENT
CANADIAN OPERATIONS

CANADIAN OFFICE
350 SPARKS STREET, SUITE 403
OTTAWA, ONTARIO K1R 7S8
www.iaff.org

FAX: 613-567-8986

RECEIVED FEB 01 2011

PHONE: 613-567-8988

January 30, 2011

Division Chief Michael Sullivan
Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs
Co-Chair - Tri-Service Special Purpose Committee
700 MHz Broadband for Mission Critical Public Safety Data
c/o Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police
582 Somerset St. West
Ottawa, Ontario K1R 5K2

Dear Chief Sullivan,

The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), representing more than 21,000 professional fire fighters in Canada, supports the Tri-Service Special Purpose Committee in its advocacy for the dedication of 20 MHz bandwidth within the 700 MHz frequency for Canada's public safety agencies.

We agree that achieving this goal would assist in several important aspects of emergency response, in particular the goal of interoperability among public service agencies responding to the same event and the ability of first responders to receive and transmit data and video information during emergency situations.

Please do not hesitate to call upon the IAFF Canadian Office for assistance as you continue to advocate this on behalf of public and emergency responder safety.

As the issue of dedicating spectrum within 700 MHz for public safety agencies is raised and discussed at the federal level with our support, we note that in-building radio coverage continues to be major health and safety concern for Canada's professional fire fighters and our members have directed us to research and advocate this issue.

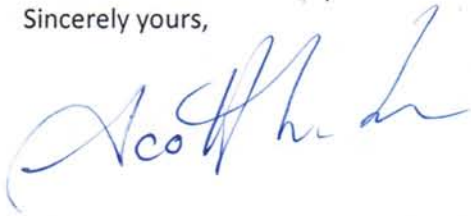
The IAFF believes that the discussion about fire fighter and public safety as it relates to radio communication should also address the current problems of signal penetration and the resulting lack of reliable in-building radio coverage still experienced by fire fighters in jurisdictions across North America. While the 700 MHz band carries increased building penetration potential in comparison with other frequencies, at the present time, there are no end-user devices, digital or analog, capable of exploiting that feature.

As a result, basic operability – the ability to communicate with fire crews inside buildings - will remain an issue that must still be addressed in addition to the issue of spectrum allocation.

We would welcome the opportunity to join with the Tri-Service Special Purpose Committee in the discussion of this important issue as well.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like additional information about the IAFF position on radio communication and other issues affecting fire fighter and public safety.

Sincerely yours,



Scott Marks
Assistant to the General President for Canadian Operations
International Association of Fire Fighters

c.c. Jim Fennell, IAFF 15th District Vice-President
Bruce Carpenter, IAFF 13th District Vice-President
Lorne West, IAFF 6th District Vice-President
Michael Hurley, President, British Columbia Professional Fire Fighters Association
Craig Macdonald, President, Alberta Fire Fighters Association
Kirby Benning, President, Saskatchewan Professional Fire Fighters Association
Dave Naaykens, President, Manitoba Professional Fire Fighters Association
Fred LeBlanc, President, Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association
Doug LeBlanc, President, Atlantic Provinces Professional Fire Fighters Association
Pete Gorman, IAFF Chief of Staff

February 28, 2011

The Honourable Tony Clement, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Industry
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister:

This letter refers to the Industry Canada consultation paper, *Consultation on a Policy and Technical Framework for the 700 MHz Band and Aspects Related to Commercial Mobile Spectrum* (Canada Gazette No. SMSE-018-10), and is further to the letter submitted by Minister Bradley of Ontario on behalf of the Canadian Council of Emergency Management Organizations members in late January of this year.

With the migration from analog to digital television and the reallocation of radio spectrum in the 700 MHz range, we have a historic and one-time opportunity to significantly enhance public safety communications interoperability with the United States. We can also finally equip our emergency responders across Canada with the correct suite of technologies they need to do their jobs.

To this end and on behalf of public safety agencies in British Columbia and across Canada, I urge Industry Canada to assign 20 MHz of dedicated spectrum to public safety in the 700 MHz band.

Existing public safety wireless networks in Canada are not capable of delivering mission-critical, real-time, multimedia content to public safety practitioners. Although some Canadian public safety agencies currently use commercial networks to support their data requirements, existing commercial networks have significant limitations when used to support the mission-critical multimedia applications that the public safety community needs today and in the future.

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Commercial networks are not designed to the reliability standards public safety requires and tend to be unavailable and overwhelmed in situations when public safety users require access the most – in the earliest moments of emergencies and major disasters. Over the past few years we have learned that commercial carriers are not inclined to provide public safety with the required priority access and pre-emption capability as this conflicts with their primary objective of maximizing profitability for their shareholders. This leads directly to the need for a dedicated public safety spectrum allocation of 20 MHz in the 700 MHz band.

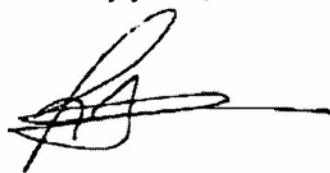
Furthermore, the public safety communities across Canada and the United States have been working together to maximize functional interoperability between bordering Canadian provinces and territories and the United States. The White House and the Obama administration, following on the President's recent State of the Union Address, have announced that they will support legislation that allocates a full 20 MHz of spectrum to the United States public safety community. Although there are significant challenges with interoperability of communications in other spectrum bands, aligning 700 MHz band spectrum allocations for public safety is entirely feasible and presents a historic opportunity to markedly enhance our cross-border communications interoperability.

Finally, as British Columbia's detailed response to the consultation questions, sent under separate cover, indicates independent technical studies (including one jointly undertaken by the Centre for Security Sciences and the Communications Research Centre) clearly demonstrate that a full 20 MHz of spectrum in the 700 MHz band is needed to support projected public safety user demands over the next decade. This is additional and concrete proof that Industry Canada should allocate 20 MHz of spectrum to public safety and not auction it for commercial use.

Correct implementation of the proposed allocation will allow us to collectively resolve historic interoperability challenges and exercise due diligence on behalf of the public we represent. The Ministers responsible for public safety in each of the provinces and territories of Canada believe that availability of mission critical multimedia services to public safety personnel during emergencies using next generation wireless technologies is something the Canadian public deserves and expects.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to provide input on this critical issue.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rich Coleman', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Rich Coleman
Solicitor General

456825



FAITH IN OUR PEOPLE - PRIDE IN OUR PRODUCTS

25 February 2011

Tri-Services Special Purpose Committee
on I700MHz Broadband for Mission Critical Public Safety
c/o Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police
582 Somerset Street West
Ottawa, Ontario
K1R 5K2

Dear Tri-Services Committee Members:

The Town of Amherst wishes to express its support for your initiative to secure the necessary bandwidth in the 700 MHz spectrum.

Our fire and police services are handicapped by the lack of a multi agency communications system. It has had, and continues to have, a negative impact on our ability to respond to emergencies in an efficient and effective manner.

Canada has this one time opportunity to obtain the necessary bandwidth that will secure the future development of a seamless communication system for emergency services. This will benefit all Canadians in various ways, but most importantly, during the most catastrophic events, it has the potential to save lives. Our understanding is that the bandwidth has significant monetary value and could be sold to private industry purely for profit. It is our position that no amount of money outweighs the value of the lives that can be saved if the bandwidth is dedicated to the Tri-Services.

Amherst Town Council, at its February 21, 2011 Committee of the Whole meeting, directed that its position of support on this issue be forwarded to Industry.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Herrett", is written over a faint, larger blue ink signature.

Gregory D. Herrett, CA
Chief Administrative Officer

gherrett@amherst.ca
Ratchford Street – PO Box 516
Amherst, Nova Scotia B4H 4A1
Telephone (902) 667-6510
Fax (902) 667-2090

www.amherstns.com





March 3, 2011

Tri-Services Special Purpose Committee on 700 MHz Broadband for Mission Critical Public Safety Data
c/o: Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police
582 Somerset Street West
Ottawa, ON K1R 5K2
Action700broadband@gmail.com

Dear Tri-Services Committee members,

Alberta Health Services provides a province wide coordinated Emergency Medical Services model that integrates with health and maintains a partnership with public safety service providers. We support your current efforts to secure dedicated 700 MHz spectrum for public safety broadband, including strongly opposing any potential Industry Canada commercial auction of that portion of the spectrum.

The use of broadband technology is crucial to the future of public safety here and across Canada. As you know, in December 2010, the presidents of Canada's national associations representing police, fire and emergency medical services announced the creation of the Tri-Services Special Purpose Committee on 700 MHz Broadband for Mission Critical Public Safety Data. The creation of the Committee was in direct response to Industry Canada's announcement of public consultations on the use of the 700 MHz band by commercial mobile services (which closes February 28, 2011).

In short, our organization supports your Committee' urging of Industry Canada to reallocate 8 MHz of spectrum (currently assigned to public safety but with unspecified use) to broadband use and allocate an additional 12 MHz of adjacent spectrum to public safety for broadband use. This would result in 20 MHz being assigned for public safety broadband use and a total allocation to public safety of 36 MHz — 20 MHz for broadband and an existing 16 MHz for narrowband/wideband (i.e., voice and low speed data).

Allocating 700 MHz spectrum directly to public safety is the only way to ensure robust, modern, reliable public safety grade interoperable networks. First responders and public safety providers must have the right tools to protect and save lives. This includes interoperable communications networks that allow real-time information sharing through high speed video and data. This requires an appropriate, dedicated band of spectrum that can accommodate the everyday needs of police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel, as well as provide excess capacity during times of emergency. The soon to be available 700 MHz block of spectrum provides this opportunity.

Our organization is working with like-minded public safety partners to ensure the voice of responders is considered during the current Industry Canada consultations on the 700 MHz band. We support your efforts to ensure this one time opportunity for public safety is not lost.

Sincerely,



Jim Garland
Executive Director, EMS Dispatch Services

c.c.: Industry Canada
 Office of the Honourable Tony Clement
 Minister of Industry
 C.D. Howe Building
 235 Queen Street
 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H5
 Canada
 Tel : 613-995-9001
 Fax: 613-992-0302
 Email: minister.industry@ic.gc.ca
 Website: <http://www.ic.gc.ca>

Service de sécurité incendie de Montréal

Cabinet du directeur

4040, avenue du Parc

Montréal (Québec) H2W 1S8

Téléphone : 514 872-3761 Télécopieur : 514 872-1907

Notre priorité, votre sécurité !

Le 28 février 2011

Gestionnaire

Technologies et services mobiles

Industrie Canada

300, rue Street

Ottawa (Ontario) K1A 0C8

Mesdames,

Messieurs,

Cette lettre est destinée à exprimer la position du Service de sécurité incendie de Montréal en ce qui concerne le cadre politique et technique visant la bande de 700 MHz et les aspects liés au spectre mobile commercial, tel que par l'avis SMSE-018-10 dans la Gazette du Canada, en date du 4 Décembre 2010.

Notre position est de soutenir pleinement et de souligner l'importance et l'urgence des efforts en cours à assurer l'allocation dédiée d'un composant 20 MHz dans la bande de fréquences 700 MHz pour la sécurité publique partout au Canada. Nous sommes fermement opposés à toute possibilité d'Industrie Canada aux enchères commerciales de la partie de ce spectre pour une utilisation commerciale.

Le Service de sécurité incendie de Montréal est chargé de fournir des services essentiels de sécurité publique à plus de 1,8 millions de citoyens au sein de l'agglomération de Montréal. Nos responsabilités comprennent la gestion des urgences, la protection civile ainsi qu'un large éventail de services d'urgence critiques qui sont effectués par le service d'incendie dans un milieu métropolitain. Le succès de notre mission à l'avenir dépendra de la disponibilité d'un nombre suffisant et fiable de fréquences réservées à large bande pour soutenir un large éventail d'applications critiques.

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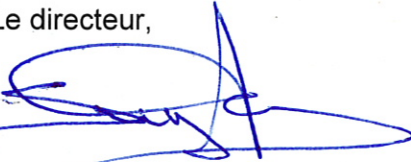
Nous demandons à Industrie Canada d'attribuer 20 MHz de spectre pour l'utilisation de la sécurité publique à large bande, y compris 8 MHz de spectre qui est actuellement affecté à la sécurité publique (avec usage non spécifié) et 12 MHz de fréquences adjacentes supplémentaires. Cela se traduirait par une allocation totale de 36 MHz pour la sécurité publique, y compris la répartition actuelle de 16 MHz pour les communications voix et données à basse vitesse. L'attribution de ces fréquences dédiées permettrait de répondre aux besoins quotidiens des organisations d'intervention d'urgence, y compris médicales et policières et des services d'incendie, et de fournir la capacité excédentaire qui est absolument essentielle en cas d'urgence.

La bande de 700 MHz offre une occasion unique que les prestataires de la sécurité publique du Canada aient le spectre qui est nécessaire pour créer des réseaux fiables, interopérables et robustes à l'avenir. Le bloc 20 MHz va nous permettre de faire l'utilisation efficace de la plupart des technologies, y compris des informations en temps réel à travers le partage vidéo à haute vitesse des données pour répondre aux besoins de nos citoyens. Nous devons nous assurer que ce spectre est réservé et protégé pour les applications critiques de sécurité publique qui finira par sauver des vies et protéger nos infrastructures critiques.

Nous demandons donc à Industrie Canada de s'assurer que cette opportunité unique pour la sécurité du public ne soit pas perdue.

Veuillez agréer, Mesdames, Messieurs, l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

Le directeur,



Serge Tremblay

c.c. L'honorable Tony Clement, ministre de l'Industrie
Membres du Comité des trois services
Association canadienne des chefs de pompiers



Halton Regional Police Services Board

Trust and Respect • Integrity • Accountability • Excellence • Teamwork • Justice

April 4, 2011

See attached distribution list

Dear :

This letter is written on behalf of the twelve largest Police Services Boards in Ontario. The "Big 12" as they are known, represents the Toronto, Peel, York, Ottawa, Durham, Hamilton, Niagara, Waterloo, Halton, London, Windsor and Sudbury Police Services Boards. Collectively we employ over 21,000 Police Officers and civilians and serve approximately 9.2 million residents.

At a meeting held on March 22, 2011, the Big 12 Police Services Boards discussed the need for public safety agencies to be able to communicate not only within their respective communities but with one another during large joint forces operations such as the G20, the upcoming Pan American games or large scale emergencies.

One possible solution to this need is the dedication of a radio frequency exclusively for public safety agencies. This can be accomplished by dedicating a portion of the 700 MHz broadband spectrum that has become available.

We understand that Industry Canada is seeking feedback on the use of this spectrum. The Big 12 Police Services Boards respectfully endorsed the following resolution in support of the dedicated broadband spectrum:

" WHEREAS the conversion of television signals to digital from analog has freed up a dedicated spectrum available for transmission purposes known as the 700 MHz band; and

WHEREAS the 700 MHz band is being returned to the federal government through its regulatory body, Industry Canada, to determine use of this frequency, including the possible use of some of this spectrum by public safety agencies for broadband data communications; and

WHEREAS international studies and Canadian public safety responders experience has demonstrated that the lack of adequate voice communications capability and interoperability increases the number of associated casualties, the severity of injuries and loss of life, and the economic impact of emergency incidents; and

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Progress Through Participation

April 4, 2011

WHEREAS the safety and security of Canadians affected by emergencies, as well as that of first responders, including police officers, paramedics and fire fighters, depends upon effective voice communications between public safety agencies; and

WHEREAS the United States government has recognized this issue as a priority and publicly stated it will be allocating 20 MHz of the 700 MHz for its public safety agencies, therefore ensuring cross border interoperability;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Big 12 Chairs of Police Services in Ontario call upon the federal and provincial governments to dedicate and reserve a 20 MHz of the 700 MHz band for mission critical broadband data use by public safety agencies;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be submitted to the federal and provincial Ministers responsible for Public Safety, for Industry Canada and to the Prime Minister of Canada and the Premier of Ontario;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be circulated to the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards, the Canadian Association of Police Boards, the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police and the Police Association of Ontario seeking their support for retaining 20 MHz of the 700 MHz band for mission critical broadband data public safety purposes.

We look forward to a favourable response to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert S. Maich". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert S. Maich,
Chairman, Halton Regional Police Services Board
Big 12 Director to the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards

cc: Big 12 Police Services Boards

Distribution List for Letter on the 700 MHz Broadband

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
OTTAWA, ON
K1A 0A2

The Honourable Tony Clement
Minister of Industry
C. D. Howe Building
235 Queen Street
OTTAWA, ON
K1A 0H5

The Honourable Vic Toews
Minister of Public Safety
House of Commons
OTTAWA, ON
K1A 0A6

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
TORONTO, ON
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The Honourable James Bradley
Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services
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Dr. Alok Mukherjee, President
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10 Peel Centre Drive,
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L6T 4B9

Mr. Ivan Court, President
Canadian Association of Police Boards
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Chief Robert Herman, President
Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police
40 College Street, Suite 605
TORONTO, ON
M5G 2J3

Mr. Larry Molyneaux, President
Police Association of Ontario
6730 Davand Drive, Unit 1
MISSISSAUGA, ON
L5T 2K8



RECEIVED
2011 MAR 30

March 30, 2011

Chief Constable Jim Chu
Vancouver Police Department
2120 Cambie Street
Vancouver BC V5Z 4N6

Dear Chief Constable Chu:

I am responding to your February 23, 2011 letter addressed to my predecessor, the Honourable Rich Coleman, regarding your request for support to secure a dedicated 700MHz spectrum for public safety broadband in Canada. I fully support the efforts to ensure this critical opportunity for public safety is not lost.

On February 28, 2011, the Honourable Rich Coleman sent a letter to the Honourable Tony Clement, Minister of Industry, Government of Canada, urging Industry Canada to assign 20MHz of dedicated spectrum to public safety in the 700 MHz band to support projected public safety user demands over the next decade rather than auctioning it for commercial use.

I look forward to hearing a response from the Ministry of Industry regarding this request and will certainly continue to advocate for a positive resolution.

Thank you for your input on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Shirley Bond
Solicitor General

pc: Superintendent Bill Moore
Superintendent Pascal Rodier
Division Chief Michael Sullivan