
Cold Lake Ambulance Society

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Power Cots and Power Load Installation

1st November 2019

OVERVIEW

The Cold Lake Ambulance Society is responsible for the operation and oversight of mobile emergency medical services that spans 4300Sq KM in Alberta and is not just responsible for the community of Cold Lake but also 200 Sq KM in Saskatchewan.

Our vision:

"To revolutionize Emergency Medical Services to be the provider that every other service would like to be. To have revolutionary service by exceptional patient experiences and excellent outcomes for patients and their families."

Alberta Health Services provides funding to make sure we are capable of providing an industry standard of care. As a board, we have found an opportunity to improve our equipment that will make a tremendous impact in the quality of care we can provide by creating a safer work environment for our front-line responders as they provide a critical service in our community.

GOALS

1. Equip our fleet of four ambulances with Stryker Power PRO-XT cots. This will decrease the risk of injury to our paramedics and thus adding safety and comfort to the patients they attend to.
2. Retrofit this fleet with Power Load systems as the base powered lifting solution. These lifts are specifically engineered to ensure safe loading of these cots into the back of an ambulance.

Benefits

With the addition of this equipment into our fleet we will improve the service we provide the residents of our service area by protecting our strongest asset, that is, our people.

Power lift cots will reduce the likelihood that a paramedic is forced to lift weights that exceed their personal capacities in order to save a life. We also recognize that repetitive movements can lead to strain injuries and such can be the case for these paramedics who can be called to multiple emergencies in any given day.

By protecting these life savers we are ensuring that they will always be able to do their job to the best of their abilities, that they will be efficient and capable to respond to the next call that they are sent out on, and lastly, that downtime and absenteeism will be reduced as these responders will not be held up by injury.

Costs

While these cots enable us to provide the best service while protecting our people they are not considered basic necessities in our market and so it is the responsibility of the board to seek funding for these upgrades, and the continuity of their operation, through private donors.

1. Total cost to outfit one ambulance with a power cot and lift system: \$56,686.90
2. Travel expenses to Saskatoon, where the equipment is manufactured and installed, to equip one ambulance: \$881.20
3. Unexpected maintenance contingency fund: \$7,056.71 (hydraulic assembly replacement).

The total cost of purchasing, installing, maintaining, and a small contingency for these units works out to be \$62,642.91, with four units to retrofit we would be looking at a total expense of \$242,499.24.

Solution

These expenses are not covered by our annual provincial funding but we recognize the great difference these upgrades could make for our staff, patients, and their families. To achieve this goal, the board is reaching out to try and secure donations from our community partners. With your assistance we will be one step closer to seeing this vision through.

We know that you place great value in the safety and welfare of the people in your organization. We hope your consideration extends to our local emergency medical responders and the residents of our community - partnering in this endeavor to improve our ambulance equipment will demonstrate that you value the safety and welfare of the community as a whole.

IN CLOSING

From the Board

The Cold Lake Ambulance Society Board of Directors is a group of volunteers who live and work in the community. We are passionate about providing a high level of service to Cold Lake and the surrounding area. We greatly appreciate your time and consideration regarding this proposal. We respect that the amount of this donation is a substantial ask - we would appreciate any contribution made toward this project. Any questions regarding this proposal or any of the supporting documentation will be happily addressed. Lastly, we would feel privileged to host you should you wish to meet the board in person and experience a tour of the facilities that we are so proud of.

From our Operations Manager

Joe Gray oversees the day to day operations of the facilities and services administered by the Cold Lake Ambulance Society. He has been involved with the society for 18 years and has invested a lot of his own time in helping us research the benefits of this endeavour and the costs associated with implementing it. It would be his pleasure to answer any operational or logistics questions you may have about the operations of our society. Should you wish to meet any of the responders who save lives in our area every day, it would be his privilege to arrange a tour.