

June 29, 2020

Peace River Regional District Board Attn: Jill Rickert, Grant Coordinator Box 810 Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8

Dear Chair Sperling and PRRD Board Members:

First and foremost, I wish to thank you for your continued and unwavering support of STARS. Our partnership marks 14 years of diligence and determination in the best interest of northern residents. We truly appreciate your steadfast commitment to saving lives.

In earlier years, statistics showed a gradual increase in call volume as STARS looked forward to being integrated into the BC health and safety system. By 2011, the mission rate had more than doubled from previous years and we anticipated that STARS might eventually fly an average of 40-50 missions per year within PRRD. Through many challenges that occurred over the past eight years, STARS continued to be ready, willing and able to respond, yet concerned as we could not respond, if not called.

Let's fast forward to 2019 where STARS flew four times the amount of missions flown in 2018, within PRRD. We are beholden to the PRRD Board for opening the doors to greater communications with all BC Emergency Health partners. STARS now works directly with BC Dispatch Centre in Kamloops and they have implemented the appropriate incidents into their system that would necessitate a STARS mission request. As well, quarterly meetings are planned to discuss wins/challenges as we move forward together. This new process of dispatching STARS into British Columbia was launched on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. To date, in 2020, STARS has flown eight missions in total within PRRD; three inter-facility transfers (Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Chetwynd) + five scene calls (Dawson Creek, (2) Fort St. John, Tumbler Ridge, Wonowon). Six of these missions occurred prior to the May 30<sup>th</sup> launch date. Thank you PRRD Board, for helping us to move forward in a positive light.

As we continue to build solid working relationships with our BC Emergency Health partners, as a gesture of good faith and a gracious nod to PRRD, STARS will not charge the BC Government for any scene call responses within PRRD, for a trial period of one year until May 2021. Regarding invoicing, STARS extends a discounted rate to the BC Government and billing will still occur for all missions flown outside of the PRRD areas and for inter-facility transfers requesting STARS transport from BC hospitals.

Thank you for PRRD's contributions to STARS Grande Prairie base operations, totaling \$1,666,528.00 from 2009-2019. I have not included your recent 2020 contribution of \$170,000.00 in this total, in order to view an accurate analysis of yearly averaged costs as we are only halfway through the 2020 calendar year.

The PRRD funding supports the STARS base in Grande Prairie including direct operations, mission flights, pilots and AMC crew, training, medical supplies and equipment, blood onboard and much more. Over the past 11 years (2009-2019), STARS flew a total of 157 completed missions within PRRD, with additional requests for STARS, that may have been aborted or cancelled due to medically not required or other means of transport may have been used. The funds received from the PRRD directly support missions flown within PRRD, as well as, missions flown for PRRD residents that may have occurred within Alberta, which are not reflected in the PRRD mission stats attached, as these missions are not identifiable due to privacy laws. With consideration of the vast remote areas throughout the northern regions, most missions require 2+ hours and the approximate cost (not discounted rate) for an average 2-hour mission is \$7200.00.

In addition, PRRD's financial support has also supported outreach training for medical, airway management and trauma with community hospital personnel at the Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Chetwynd and Tumbler Ridge Hospitals. Over the years, STARS has also provided many landing zone training sessions with rural fire departments from Hudson's Hope south to the Valemount areas. Ongoing training is vital for all medical and emergency personnel to hone skillsets and keep minds adept, especially in crisis. Your support is vital to these communities.

Many PRRD residents visit the Grande Prairie area frequently. We all commute and travel whether it is for work, recreation, visiting family members or vacationing. The partnership that STARS shares with PRRD, ensures that the highest level of emergency critical care services will continue to be available to northern residents. Together, we safeguard a robust health and safety network for Canadians across Western Canada.

Currently, of the 90% municipal support that STARS receives, approximately 70% contribute at a minimum \$2 per capita up to a range that exceeds \$90 per capita annually. Like PRRD, your bordering neighbors of; County of Grande Prairie, Saddle Hills County and the M.D. of Greenview all recognize STARS as an emergency protective service asset for their residents. These, along with most municipalities, have moved to a standing motion which includes their annual contribution to STARS, within their protective services budgets rather than coming from community grants. This has helped ease the administrative process, as well as, ensure sustainability for the municipality and STARS alike. We would appreciate your kind consideration of this motion, as we continue to work together for the future.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly, if I can provide further information or answer any questions. Our partnership is a testament to making the world a safer place to raise our children and embrace a quality of life.

We are all STARS.

Glenda Farnden

Sr. Municipal Relations Liaison

(780) 512-6205

gfarnden@stars.ca





ALLY IMPACT REPORT

TO LIFT ONE TAKES
THE HANDS OF MANY













Support from the Peace River Regional District is critical to making these happen. In 2019, the Peace River Regional District contributed \$170,000 towards STARS operations in northern British Columbia and Alberta. *Thank you.* Because of you, we are able to provide highly skilled and talented crews, purchase the most up to date medical tools and technology, and treat patients with the care, precision and timeliness that ensures their best chance of survival.

In 2019 STARS flew a total of 1,434 missions from our three Alberta bases, and trained 1,106 medical personnel. The STARS Emergency Link Centre responded to 22,697 emergency requests during the same period (an average of 63 per day). These calls covered a wide spectrum of events, from scene calls to inter-facility transfers, patients in rural hospitals, industry emergency requests, search and rescue missions, charter helicopter coordination, on-line medical control for ground EMS, etc.

### **Peace River Regional District**

### **2019 Mission Statistics**

P.R.R.D	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	TOTAL
Bennett Dam											1			1
Chetwynd Inter-facility	2	1	1	2	3	1	1		4	1			1	17
Chetwynd scene					1		2					1	1	5
Dawson Creek Inter-facility			3	3	4	6	3	4	2	2				27
Dawson Creek scene	2	2	2	5	10	4	2	2					1	30
Fort St. John Inter-facility		1	2	2	8	1	2	4	2					22
Fort St. John scene & SAR				2	2		4	2		1	2		1	14
Hudson's Hope						2			1	1	1		1	6
Kakwa Lake Cabin Site										1				1
Kelly Lake	1	1				1			5					8
Pink Mountain						1	1					1		3
Sikanni Chief									2		1			3
Sunset Prairie												1	1	2
Taylor													1	1
Tomslake	,		1				1						1	3
Tumbler Ridge Inter-facility			1	1	1	2	1	1	1				1	9
Tumbler Ridge scene	1	2	2			1	2				1		1	10
Willow Valley						1								1
Wonowon					1	1		1			1		3	7
TOTAL	6	7	12	15	30	21	19	14	17	6	7	3	13	170



Last year, because of your support, STARS was able to carry out 13 inter-facility transfers and scene missions that occured within the Peace River Regional District. Thank you for helping to support the residents of the Peace River Regional District in the communities and areas where they live, work and play.

Thank you for your steadfast commitment to STARS since 2007. Your commitment helps STARS maintain the highest level of critical care for your rural residents and ensures that health and safety is of the utmost priority.

# WE ALL THANK YOU



"I am here today because you support STARS."

- STARS VIP, Larissa Helbig

"Thank you. My family and I feel better knowing STARS is in our community."

- STARS VIP, Caiden Hendry





"To know that total strangers kept me alive inside a helicopter because donors made it possible is overwhelming."

- STARS VIP, Hank Postma

On behalf of our patients, their families, and all of us at STARS, thank you!

## **YOU SAVE LIVES**

We are sincerely grateful for your commitment to fight for life, which continually improves and enhances our responsiveness to every patient's unique situation. This year, because of generous support from donors like you, STARS was able to acquire much needed tools, including upgraded infusion pumps, a newly implemented tele-health system for transport physicians, and we replaced our computer-aided dispatch system.

It's because of you that we are able to be there for the next critically ill or injured patient in Western Canada. Thank you!

#### **FISCAL 2019 REVENUE BREAKDOWN FOR 6 BASES**



<sup>\*</sup>Net fundraising revenues and operating revenues from the fiscal 2019 unaudited internal statements. For STARS' audited financial statements from previous years please visit stars.ca. Audited statements for fiscal 2019 will be available after the annual general meeting in September 2019.





45,489 DONORS

\$10M APPROXIMATE YEARLY COST TO RUN A BASE











2.878 YEARLY MISSIONS FLOWN FROM OUR BASES IN: AB 1,434 SK 812 MB 632

B DAILY AVERAGE MISSIONS

MORE THAN **42,000 MISSIONS SINCE 1985** 















**EDUCATION THROUGH SIMULATION** 

2,251 MEDICAL PERSONNEL TRAINED 1,106 AB 652 SK 493 MB