

**Interagency Search and Rescue Introductory Meeting
Castle Mountain Resort, Inc.**

Agenda

- 1. Introduction:** Doug Sokoloski Pincher Creek RCMP
- 2. Self Profile of Attendees:** Each participant will do a brief profile of their experience pertaining to Search and Rescue for info purposes only.
- 3. Castle Mountain Involvement in area Search and Rescue and CMR issues pertaining to SAR:**
 - 1) Liability issues and protection
 - 2) WCB issues
 - 3) Equipment issues
 - 4) Material and supply issues
 - 5) Employee and cost reimbursement pertaining to SAR
 - 6) Incident Command System-Who is in charge?
2 IC?
Central Base Office
 - 7) Interagency co-operation and ICS-flow chart required?
 - 8) RCMP and PCSAR land area responsibility
 - 9) Alberta Sustainable Resource And Development
Responsibility level and land area responsibility relating to SAR
 - 10) Other SAR Groups-detailed list required?
- Profiles for members of other groups?
- 3. Discussion on Interagency Rescue Scenario:** Good idea/bad idea?
Where? When? How? How big?
- 4. Next Meeting?**

Darrel Lewko
P.O. Box 513
Pincher Creek, AB
T0K 1W0

Mr. Evan Berger
P.O. Box 69
2115-2 Avenue
Fort MacLeod, AB
T0L 0Z0

Dear Mr. Evan Berger:

Please take the time to read the attached article that I have written and if you can, please contact Mr. Ted Morton to discuss this item. As well, if you can, I would be available to discuss this matter at your convenience.

I thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly

Darrel Lewko
Director, Castle Mountain Resort, Inc.

Barrel Lewko
P.O. Box 513
Pincher Creek, AB
T0K 1W0

Honourable Ted Morton
Minister of Sustainable Resource Development
160 MacLaurin Drive
Edmonton, AB T3Z 3S4

Honourable Ted Morton:

I have been thinking about search and rescue in the mountain area of the Castle Mountain ski mountain, for a long period of time and have come to a conclusion that a lot of dialogue be entered into with the Government of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development employees, Government of Canada Park employees at Waterton Lakes National Park, Pincher Creek Search and Rescue, Crowsnest Pass Search and Rescue and Park Canada employees. There is a need to enter into an integrated training program that I believe is very important for the safety and timely rescue of victims who get into the backcountry of the Province of Alberta.

Please take the time to read the attached information I have e-mailed along with this letter. I have also sent to your e-mail address, and if you can, please respond.

Thank you in advance for any information you can forward to me relating to this matter.

Sincerely truly

Barrel Lewko
Castle Mountain Resort, Inc.

Search and Rescue in the Castle Front Range

During the past Castle Mountain Resort has, on numerous occasions been called and has responded to various rescue operations of people who use the surrounding area. We have a very well trained crew of pro-patrol employees who can respond to various emergencies. All of our personnel are EMR level or equivalent First Aid trained and have avalanche rescue training. We do have a concern, however about the rescue operations that we attend outside of our Licensed Area. Our personnel use CMR equipment and on many occasions we are sending on-duty employees and this has the potential of leaving us with a deficient coverage of our terrain as far as rescue, first aid and other related items. Two of our pro-patrol are on a "Special Resource List" callout list with Pincher Creek Search and Rescue and have attained SAR fundamentals. The purpose of this discussion is to open dialogue with Alberta Sustainable Resource and Development in this very important aspect of the backcountry.

As many government employees understand that this area, and the area north of Highway 3, is used to a greater extent it has become apparent that possibly a formal undertaking amongst professional rescue personnel be instituted. There are many issues that arise and one is reimbursement for expenses in these search operations, and another one is working with volunteer groups such as Pincher Creek Search and Rescue, as well as Crowsnest Pass Search and Rescue. Both of these groups are very well trained and we think that a better working relationship with more understanding of the nature of mountain rescue and the expertise required to attain a safe environment for all involved should be instituted. SRD has many trained rescue personnel and this group along with Castle Mountain Resort rescue trained personnel should be entering into an integrated training program. Included in this integration the Parks Canada personnel of Waterton Lakes should be included, as these people have similar training. As well, we understand that Kananaskis Country has a trained rescue group, and that group should be aligned with other rescue operations if they are not already. In the event of a major rescue operation it is not apparent to CMR who would be in charge, although we understand the RCMP are the first informed Government Agency in any rescue operation. Many issues arise out of which group or agency would be the Rescue Leader overall in the Incident Command System. The Province of Alberta has many site specific rescue trained personnel, but is there a training consistency along with other rescue groups?

We would like to discuss the above items and start dialogue for an integrated system similar to British Columbia's Provincial Emergency Program. If this dialogue has started we would be very interested in becoming part of and attending any information sessions or other discussions. It is completely understood that this is a very large undertaking, however by integrating professional rescue personnel training, there would be a more standardized process and ultimately safer and timely process. We are familiar with the Mutual Aid system but have very little literature on the organization of this concept.

Once again if this concept or any other Search and Rescue integration has started please inform us of contact information for the purpose of entering into the discussion group.



ALBERTA
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Office of the Minister

AR21817

APR 08 2009

Mr. Darrel Lewko, Director
Castle Mountain Resorts
Box 610
Pincher Creek, Alberta T0K 1W0

Dear Mr. Lewko:

My parliamentary assistant, Mr. Evan Berger, MLA Livingstone-Macleod, recently forwarded me a copy of your article entitled "Search and Rescue in the Castle Front Range." I appreciate the opportunity to review the article and provide the following information.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) is the lead co-ordinating agency for search and rescue efforts in the province. In regard to your concerns about liability and training, and suggestion that Alberta should consider an integrated system similar to British Columbia's Provincial Emergency Program, I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your article to my colleague, the Honourable Fred Lindsay, Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security, for his consideration.

I am aware that a number of local Sustainable Resource Development (SRD) staff in the Crowsnest Pass area volunteer on local search and rescue groups. Search and rescue activities are not a core part of my department's business. As a result, departmental staff that participate in these operations follow directions provided by the RCMP, and only participate in the search process when requested by the RCMP.

I recognize that a number of my department staff work in remote areas, where they have previously been involved in emergency situations. Often, they have been the first on the scene, taking on the role of a "First Responder." Staff are trained in CPR and First Aid and have radio or cellular phone contact with their local office. In these situations, the local RCMP or emergency services are contacted to provide assistance to Albertans and visitors.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Ted Morton
Minister

cc: The Honourable Fred Lindsay, Minister of Solicitor General and Public Security
Evan Berger, MLA, Livingstone-Macleod



ALBERTA

SOLICITOR GENERAL AND MINISTER OF PUBLIC SECURITY

Honourable Fred Lindsay

Office of the Minister

MLA, Stony Plain

AR 13696

May 8, 2009

Mr. Darrel Lewko
Director
Castle Mountain Resorts
Box 610
Pincher Creek AB T0K 1W0

Dear Mr. Lewko:

I am pleased to respond to your article entitled "Search and Rescue in the Castle Front Range" forwarded to me by Honourable Ted Morton, Minister of Sustainable Resource Development. As the Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security, I am responsible for the administration of policing services for the Province of Alberta and will respond to a portion of your enquiry.

Ground Search and Rescue (GSAR) operations in Canada are conducted under the legal authority of the individual provinces and territories. This authority is delegated for operational response to the police service of jurisdiction. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) is the operational authority for GSAR operations in most Canadian provinces, including Alberta. As our Provincial Police Service, the RCMP is responsible for the investigation of and search for lost or missing persons within RCMP jurisdiction in Alberta, except within the National Parks.

Due to the complexity of GSAR operations, the three levels of government (federal, provincial and territorial) share responsibility for these operations. Each level of government has authority within its own jurisdiction, however collectively they make up the National Search and Rescue Program. The six federal department and agency partners in the national program includes; Canadian Forces, Canadian Coast Guard, RCMP, Transport Canada, Parks Canada Agency and the Meteorological Service of Canada (Environment Canada). These agencies collectively develop National Search and Rescue policy and incident response plans.

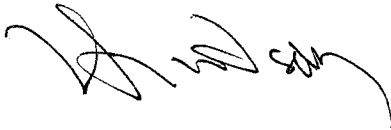
.../2

The Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) of Alberta Municipal Affairs has lead responsibility for Search and Rescue Operations within Alberta. This agency has developed very specific plans to deal with ground and downed aircraft search and rescue operations. The AEMA has designated ground search and rescue responsibility to the pertinent police force, supported by volunteer ground search and rescue groups, and government or private sector aircraft. Search and rescue of downed aircraft is the responsibility of the Department of National Defense, supported by volunteer air search organizations.

Responding to emergency situations, such as downed aircraft or lost persons, is complex and invariably requires the participation of numerous first response agencies (police, fire, ambulance) as well as search and rescue personnel in some situations. It is therefore imperative that our response be immediate, uniform, coordinated and sensitive to the various Federal/Provincial government department mandates.

Your article broaches the possibility of implementing an integrated system similar to British Columbia's Provincial Emergency Program and expresses a concern about liability issues for Castle Mountain Resort when its personnel are called to assist outside of your licensed area. Since these two issues would be more appropriately addressed by the AEMA, I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your article to my colleague, Honourable Ray Danyluk, Minister of Municipal Affairs, for his further consideration.

Sincerely,



Fred Lindsay
Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security

cc: Honourable Ted Morton
Minister of Sustainable Resource Development

Honourable Ray Danyluk
Minister of Municipal Affairs

Evan Berger
MLA, Livingstone-Macleod



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Lac La Biche - St. Paul*

AR42848

June 22, 2009

Mr. Darrel Lewko, Director
Castle Mountain Resort
PO Box 610
Pincher Creek, Alberta T0K 1W0

Dear Mr. Lewko:

The Honourable Fred Lindsay, Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security, forwarded a copy of your article "Search and Rescue in the Castle Front Range." I have reviewed the article and am pleased to provide the following information.

Alberta Municipal Affairs, through the Alberta Emergency Management Agency, has lead responsibility for search and rescue in Alberta. Although emergency response staffing is a municipal responsibility, the Government of Alberta understands the need to ensure that appropriate emergency response capabilities exist in all communities. For this reason, the agency has begun a review of search and rescue capabilities in Alberta.

This review will include consultation with organizations such as municipal police, the RCMP, affected government agencies, and search and rescue providers. The safety of Albertans during an emergency is our primary concern, and having responsive search and rescue teams is part of our commitment to providing safe and strong communities.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, I encourage you to contact Ernie Polsom, Director of Field Operations with the Alberta Emergency Management Agency, toll-free at 310-0000, then 780-415-0549 or by emailing ernie.polsom@gov.ab.ca.

Thank you for your commitment to the public safety of Albertans.

Sincerely,

Ray Danyluk
Minister

cc: Honourable Ted Morton, Minister of Sustainable Resource Development
Honourable Fred Lindsay, Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security
Evan Berger, MLA, Livingstone-Macleod

2011-02-10

10:00

□ PC SAAL MOD COPY TO DOB & ^{WOL} SOWSKI, RCMP.

RE JAN 9 AVALANCHE.

BOB, RCMP ERP RE AVALANCHE.

DUDE, ANDREW, FRANK, BOB, LORNE,
MICHAEL, GAIL, JANET, BRETT, TOM,
DAVE, JASON, DARRYL, BREE, CURTIS.

□ ADD BOB TO PREPLAN MAILING LIST.

RCMP
CONSIDER CMR TO BE SEPARATE SAAL ORG.

□ GET COPY OF LTR FROM DARRYL RE SAAL AT CMR
TO MINISTER

NEXT MONTH
UP TO 7 LEVEL 2 AV TECH AT CMR

* LIMR MAY NOT HAVE RESOURCES TO OFF THE HILL.

YEAR ROUND RESPONSE.

ACTIONS ON INCIDENT

CMR FACILITY
IS A HUB.

- PRESTAGE AMBULANCE
- NOTIFICATION
- VEHICLE CHECKS
- AV TECH CLEARS AREA AS SAFE.
- MEDIA OPS.
- HOLD onto WITNESS. CONTACT DETAILS, VEHICLE LICENSE PLATE.

RCMP REPEATER.

□ REQUEST ACCESS TO CMR FREQ. CH 9.
ACCESS TO PHONE LINE.
BEST FOR OFF SEASON.
TO ANDREW.

2011-02-10
11:38

- * OPTION TO ADD TO CNR'S RADIO TOWER.
- * PARKS, MICHAEL TAJE - HAS PORTABLE PROGRAMABLE RADIO REPEATER.
- * SRD WOULD LIKE TO BE NOTIFIED OF ANY SAR OPS IN CROWN LAND.
VIA REPORT - A-POSITION - PHONE #.
- * SRD CAN BRING IN COMMUNICATIONS ~~REPAIRS~~ KITS ON REQUEST.
- * ROPE RESCUE TRAINING BUDGET THROUGH ALMA FIRE GRANT.
CNP
12 AT NEPA 1006 RESCUE 1 LEVEL TECH.
WOULD HAVE BEEN 7 HAS TO PREPARE JAN AVAR.
- DISTRIBUTE PCSAR RESOURCE SUMMARY.
JOINT AVAR EX
- UNDERSTAND BC ACCESS TO MIDDLE KOOTENAY PASS
DURING WINTER - BRKE
ALBERTA PARKS 382-4096 x1
24HR CONTACT.
- * WED NIGHT PRACTICES AT CNP SAR 19:30-
- NEXT MTG ~~RELEAS~~ MARCH, 10