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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
Jan. 19, 2009

BC Ambulance Service

### **PARAMEDICS RECOGNIZE POLICE FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

ABBOTSFORD – The BC Ambulance Service (BCAS) will present two Abbotsford police officers with Good Samaritan Awards to recognize the critical medical assistance they provided which helped save the life of a fellow officer.

“Without the quick interventions of the Abbotsford police, Cst. Alex Wood may not be alive today,” said BCAS Abbotsford Unit Chief Jake Parmar. “By working as a team and contacting the BC Ambulance Service for assistance, they were able to determine the severity of the event and get him the help he needed to survive.”

On Sept. 16, 2008, Abbotsford police Acting Sergeant Bob Bergman and Cst. Bill Emory were executing a search warrant at a residence with Wood when he disturbed a bees nest; he received over 100 stings that resulted in an anaphylactic reaction. Bergman recognized the increasing seriousness as the reaction progressed and worked with Emory to contact a BCAS Emergency Medical Dispatcher who are trained to provide assistance over the phone. Emory worked with the dispatcher to administer an Epi-pen to Woods immediately and monitor his condition while BCAS paramedics were enroute. Fortunately, an RCMP officer who also attended the call happened to have an Epi-pen available.

“Even with the best-trained paramedics and the fastest response times, the simple actions of bystanders during a medical emergency can often be one of the most critical factors in a patient’s outcome,” said BCAS Fraser Valley Superintendent Wilf Meyer.

The Good Samaritan Award is presented by the BC Ambulance Service to people who provide unselfish and humanitarian assistance during a medical emergency.

The Awards will be presented at the Abbotsford City Police Board meeting at the Abbotsford Police station, on Jan. 20 at 12:00pm by BCAS Unit Chief Jake Parmar with Mayor George Peary and all police officers present.

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