



## NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release  
April 24, 2008

BC Ambulance Service

### **PARAMEDICS ON THE ICE**

KAMLOOPS –BC Ambulance Service (BCAS) paramedics have the skills and tools to support a broken arm, stop bleeding and deliver life saving treatment, but do they know how to skate? That’s the question paramedics from across the province will be answering this weekend at the 2008 Paramedic Hockey Tournament in Kamloops.

“This is such a fun tournament to get together with paramedics from across BC,” said Randy Macleod, Unit Chief for the BCAS and Team Captain of the Kamloops Desert Dogs. “The spirit behind the whole weekend is really based on camaraderie and a sense of team, although the competitive spirit does come out in the games.”

Nearly 100 paramedics from across the province have come together to form six separate regional teams, who will compete for the title. This is the 6<sup>th</sup> year that BCAS paramedics, with the support of their union, have hosted a provincial paramedic hockey tournament.

“There are lots of laughs and antics on the ice,” said Hardeep Dhaliwal, charge dispatcher for the BCAS and team member of the Kamloops Desert Dogs. “In my four years of playing the focus has always been on having fun”.

In addition to the tournament, paramedics will also compete against each other in the Challenge Cup Skills Competition. They won’t be timed to see who can start an IV or bandage a broken arm the fastest but rather, compete for the title of Fastest Skater, Hardest Shot, Best Puck Handler, and Top Goalie/Shooter Showdown.

If you are interested in watching the tournament, the first game is on Friday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. at the Ice Box Arena, located at 463 Dene Road in Kamloops. The Challenge Cup Skills Competition will be held on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:15 p.m.

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