

For Immediate Release  
July 8, 2008

BC Ambulance Service

### **INTERIOR PARAMEDICS RECOGNISED BY THEIR PEERS**

KELOWNA – The British Columbia Ambulance Service (BCAS) will recognize paramedics from Kelowna with Employee Recognition Awards, at a special lunch at the Best Western Hotel in Kelowna on July 8 from 11:30am to 12:30pm.

“BC Ambulance Service paramedics play a vital role in the provision of emergency medical care,” said Health Service Minister George Abbott. “The achievements of paramedics in the Interior and throughout the province, comes through their dedication, continued enthusiasm and a commitment to quality patient care.”

This year 14 awards will be presented to individuals and teams from Kelowna; and a 20 year Long Service award will be given to Paramedic Gerald Englebertink from Lumby.

The BCAS employee recognition awards program gives formal recognition to individuals and teams for their exemplary contributions. Nominations fall under four categories: Patient Care, Community Involvement, Teamwork and Leadership. Each year individuals and crews are nominated by their fellow paramedics and a committee reviews the nominations and then selects the award recipients.

“We are proud of the achievements these individuals and teams have shown,” said Executive Director, Larry Jackson. “This celebration is an important event to highlight the significant contributions BCAS paramedics make to our citizens and the communities everyday.”

Paramedics are active in the community and support many organizations by volunteering their time and expertise. They carry out their duties with empathy, kindness and a sense of humour, making them fantastic leaders amongst their peers and throughout their communities. They take on tasks to not only educate members of the public, but also their colleagues in areas of safety, CPR and other training aspects.

July 1 – 7 is Paramedic Appreciation Week; which gives the public the opportunity to learn more about what paramedics do in their community and to formally recognize the contributions they make everyday.

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Contact: Sarah Taylor  
Communications Officer  
BC Ambulance Service  
(250) 953-4310 or  
(250) 213 7555