

---

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
2008HSERV0084-001298  
Aug. 26, 2008

Ministry of Health Services  
BC Ambulance Service

### **FUNDING APPROVED FOR NEW REVELSTOKE AMBULANCE STATION**

REVELSTOKE – Health Services Minister George Abbott announced today that government is investing \$2 million to build a new ambulance station in Revelstoke.

“The new station will be a permanent, centrally located base for paramedics to continue providing high-quality emergency health care to patients in Revelstoke and surrounding areas,” said Abbott. “This is another example of our continued investment in health care in communities across the province and how we are improving emergency care.”

The BC Ambulance Service (BCAS) completed the purchase of the property at 900 Oscar St. from the City of Revelstoke in March 2008 following a public hearing at which attendees were supportive of the land-use designation and zoning change.

“I’m pleased that paramedics in Revelstoke will have a brand new station from which to respond to emergency calls,” said BCAS chief operating officer Sue Conroy. “I would like to thank the crews for their patience while work was underway to secure construction funding and purchase the land.”

“A new ambulance station is a major investment that will enhance emergency health care in our community,” said Revelstoke Mayor Mark McKee. “The City of Revelstoke has been working closely with the BC Ambulance Service to find a suitable area to locate a new station. I am thrilled that we were successful.”

The next stage will be completing the station planning and design and posting a request for proposals (RFP) for construction. The new station will have crew quarters, a kitchen and common area, bathroom and covered ambulance bays. It is estimated that construction will begin in summer 2009 and be completed by the following fall.

Today, across the province, 470 ambulances and 41 support vehicles are on the street, compared to 457 ambulances and 27 units in 2003/04. In the past four years, demand for ambulance service has increased by 22 per cent. BCAS responded to 526,015 events in 2007/08, up from 432,283 in 2003/04. In response, BCAS upgraded 48 ambulance stations to rural from remote, providing 24/7 standby coverage, and increased the number of full and part-time paramedics – 3,471 now serve B.C.

British Columbia's health system will benefit from more investments like Revelstoke over the next three years as part of the Province's \$2.7-billion health sector capital plan.

Media contact: Michelle Stewart  
Communications Director  
Ministry of Health Services  
250 812-5571 (cell)  
250 952-1887

Steven Roberts  
Director of Communications  
BC Ambulance Service  
250 953-3165

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province's news feeds using RSS, visit the Province's website at [www.gov.bc.ca](http://www.gov.bc.ca).