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Sarah Taylor
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Str. Prov. Govt., Saanichton, B.C.

July 6, 2008

Dear Sarah,

I wish to advise you of a recent incident in Penticton B.C. where I feel we received exemplary service from two Ambulance attendants.

At approximately 14:45 on Friday, May 20th, 2008, my son, Ryan Stark was injured in a rather freak Industrial accident at the construction site of the new South Okanagan Events Centre building in Penticton.

He is a 21 year old welder, and was welding on a steel girder when he heard a loud noise and felt a sharp pain in his arm, followed by blood spurting out of his upper arm. There was an unexploded "Hilti" shell (used for setting nails) lying on the girder; unseen to him and the sparks from his welder must've set off the powder in the shell; and sent it flying into his upper bicep. I believe the call went out as an "arterial bleed", but was controlled by pressure from Occupational first aiders on site.

When the EHS crew arrived, they were superb in their professionalism and knowledge of their job. The one attendant that I know of was Rick Treby; he is the local 329 Unit chief. He has a superb sense of humor, too, which made my son feel at ease during his ride to the hospital. Unfortunately, I do not have the name of his partner (the driver), that day; he was very good, too.

My son underwent minor surgery to remove the shell casing but the doctor was unable to remove it, fearing that he would damage the muscle more than the effect of leaving it in. They gave him a high dose of anti-biotics and released him later that day from hospital. He is going to be fine but it gave everyone a real scare.

Again, our sincere thanks to The BC Ambulance Service and the attendants involved.

Yours truly,


Allan Stark