

# 9.5.7 - EMS ARRANGEMENTS

"Every camp must make arrangements with nearby physicians, hospitals, clinics and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to attend to medical emergencies at camp and during trips. Camps must renew these arrangements annually."

I was able to meet with Graham Vanderwater, who is the EMS Director for Alberta Health Services. I shared this standard with Mr. Vanderwater, and we discussed what the needs of the EMS system are. He informed me that an "arrangement" to attend to medical emergencies is not a requirement, as that is AHS and EMS's mandate. He suggested, rather, that it would be useful for EMS Dispatch to have a database of camps with information regarding their location and access should an emergency vehicle need to attend to the camp. As such, the ACA will be collecting this information as a part of Membership Registration/Renewal each year, and will provide a list to EMS, updating it annually.

It will be the responsibility of each member camp to ensure this information is provided to the ACA, and up-to-date. This information will include:

- Camp Name
- Municipal or Rural (blue sign) address
- Legal land description for camps in rural areas
- Lat/Long Coordinates for the entrance to camp from the nearest municipally maintained road (township or range road) Lat/Long Coordinates for the primary camp building or designated EMS meeting point Emergency Access Notes/Instructions
  - E.g.: from the gate, travel 300m west on private road, keeping right at the Y in the road, to reach the main camp building. Follow signs for "Lodge".

Camps should include reference to this database with EMS information beside each phone and in each facility. These postings should tell guests to let the EMS dispatcher know that they are calling from the camp, and that EMS has a database from the ACA with detailed location information for your site.

All camps will have the opportunity to add this information to their profile when our new website is up and running. For the remainder of the current accreditation season, providing this information to the ACA (and thus EMS) will be considered "arrangement" as it is required by Standard 9.5.7.



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Camps that operate (either main site or out-trips) outside of reliable telephone (landline or cell phone) access, should arrange a means of contacting Emergency Services, local RCMP or Search and Rescue as appropriate.

It is also recommended that camps inform local hospitals if they are hosting a large event bringing in upwards of 1000 people, so they can be prepared for the possibility of higher patient intake.

Moving forward, the Standards and Accreditation Committee will propose updating this standard at the 2023 AGM. The proposed new standards will be:

9.5.7 "Every camp must ensure that the ACA has up-to-date location information to share with Alberta Emergency Medical Services. This is done as a part of annual membership renewal."

9.5.8 "Camps that operate (either main site or out-trips) outside of reliable telephone (landline or cell phone) access, must arrange a means of contacting Emergency Services, local RCMP or Search and Rescue as appropriate."

Recommended: "Camps should inform local hospitals if they are hosting a large event bringing in upwards of 1000 people, so they can be prepared for the possibility of higher patient intake."



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