



February 2016

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

CSA Technical Committee on Community Paramedicine

Dear Stakeholders,

CSA Group is working with Paramedic stakeholders across the country to develop a new Canadian Standard for Community Paramedicine Program Planning. This project is being funded under the Canadian Safety and Security Program (CSSP) managed through Defense Research and Development Canada (DRDC) Centre for Security Science (CSS). Project partners providing support are: Paramedic Chiefs of Canada, Paramedic Association of Canada, Regional Paramedic Program for Eastern Ontario, and the Alberta College of Paramedics.

The purpose of the Standard is to provide guidance to enable paramedic services across Canada to fully understand the context, key considerations and essential components for community paramedicine program development and planning.

The Canadian health care system is presently facing unprecedented challenges as Canada's health care demographics have resulted in increasing performance and financial pressures. Jurisdictions in Canada are placing increasing emphasis on, and commitment to the transformation of the health care system into a system that is patient-centred and community-based. Governments in Canada and elsewhere are supporting the development and expansion of Community Paramedicine programs to improve access to additional support services. The aim of these programs is to improve patient outcomes and decrease costs in a way that supplements, but does not replace, health care provision by other providers. These programs can help to provide a more sustainable, integrated, patient-centred system.

Currently, national standards for community paramedic (CP) programs across Canada do not exist. The intent of this new standard is to provide a framework and a systematic approach for paramedic organizations who wish to establish such programs within their community. It is not the intent of this Standard to imply uniformity in the structure of a community paramedicine program, but for an organization to establish and implement a program that is appropriate to its needs and the requirements of its stakeholders.

To undertake this work, a new Technical Committee is being established and we are seeking interested stakeholders who will actively participate and contribute to the development of this important Canadian standard. The Technical Committee will have a balanced representation from the following stakeholder categories:

User Interest – those who work for or represent a Paramedic Service organization (i.e. paramedic practitioners).

Regulatory interest (Government) – those who are predominantly involved in setting public policy or regulation with respect to paramedic services.

General Interest – those who hold an interest as consultants, researchers, non-governmental organizations, etc, or those representing national organizations or professional associations. This includes representatives from other health care provider organizations.

Service Providers - those involved in the development and provision of relevant products and services (e.g. paramedic educational programs, certification programs, equipment, communication systems, etc.)

What is expected?

- Active participation and willingness to work on a committee electronically and in-person
- Collaborate and network with other stakeholders
- Ability to represent a stakeholder category outlined above
- Commitment to participate in committee work over a period of approximately 12 – 18 months
- Ability to work in a multi-stakeholder environment, following the principles of consensus
- Community paramedicine knowledge / experience.

If you are interested in participating as a member of the CSA Community Paramedicine Technical Committee, please submit a statement outlining your interest and ability to contribute to:

Ron Meyers of CSA Group at: ron.meyers@csagroup.org

If you know of a colleague who may be interested in this project, feel free to distribute this document. We will be reviewing all applications over the coming weeks to confirm the Committee Membership.

The first Technical Committee meeting is being planned for April 2016, details to be confirmed.

We are excited about this project and look forward to receiving your interest and submission in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

Ron Meyers

Project Manager

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