



Lac La Biche County
welcoming by nature.

January 29, 2013

Reeve Steve Upham
County of St. Paul
5015 - 49 Avenue
St. Paul, AB T0A 3A4

RECEIVED JAN 31 2013

Dear Reeve Upham:

On January 21, 2013, the Government of Alberta confirmed that Medevac services would be moved in March from City Centre Airport to the Edmonton International Airport. The transfer time (from plane to hospital) is expected to more than double, lowering the response standard from one of the best in Canada to one of the worst.

Lac La Biche County Council believes the current Medevac service standards for northern communities must be maintained because lives depend on it. The Government's transfer plan will not do this. In truth, the move will negatively impact Medevac services and threaten the health and safety of critically ill patients coming from northern Alberta.

We know through previous correspondence and discussion that your municipality shares our concerns. Our Council is asking you to join us in our quest to delay this looming, life threatening action. Our request to the Government of Alberta is simple:

Delay transfer of Medevac services from the Edmonton Centre Airport until proper arrangements are made that protect Medevac service standards for northern communities.

We ask that you write or email the Premier, Minister of Health Fred Horne and your local and Edmonton MLAs and City Council with this request. We believe it is not too late to change the plan. However, it is important to speak with one voice and do it soon. Through the media and other means, we have asked our residents to support us by individually voicing their concerns too. We hope you will urge your residents, family and friends to do the same.

We support the efforts of the Save Our Medevac Service Society. You can find more information on this issue on their website: www.SaveourMedevac.ca

Thank you for your support regarding this important matter.

Sincerely,

Aurel Langevin, Mayor

cc: Lac La Biche County Councillors