



Lac La Biche County
welcoming by nature.

Office of the Mayor

August 13, 2012

CAO Sheila Kitz
County of St. Paul No. 19
5015 - 49 Avenue
St. Paul AB T0A 3A4

Dear Ms. Kitz:

A few months ago we asked your municipality to support us in our fight to maintain existing Medevac service standards for northern communities by writing letters and keeping the issue in front of local MLAs. We believe the efforts of municipalities like yours have paid dividends.

For the past few months, President of the Treasury Board and Finance Minister Doug Horner has been pursuing the option of sending northern Medevac flights to Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Edmonton at Namao once Edmonton's City Centre Airport closes in 2013. It has come to our attention that Canada's Minister of Defense refused to allow it but Premier Redford has taken up the cause and is discussing it with the Prime Minister. If the Prime Minister agrees to allow the Medevac flights, Namao would become the primary landing site with the Edmonton International Airport as the secondary location.

If Namao is not selected, then Edmonton International will become the new Medevac landing site with Villeneuve Airport as the secondary location. Villeneuve has been rejected as a primary site because its base infrastructure is not suitable. The CFB Edmonton at Namao option would come the closest to maintaining the Medevac service standard that has saved many lives over the years. We have written to the Prime Minister, the Premier and our local MP to express our support of this option and urge approval. Copies of the letters we sent are attached.

It is our hope that your municipality would send similar letters. This is a good opportunity to speak with one voice on this issue and show the scope of support among northern communities. This is a time sensitive matter as a decision is likely to occur this fall.

If you need more information or have any questions, please contact our consultant Godfrey Huybregts at godfrey@marcommworks.ca 780-944-9455 or our Communications and Community Services General Manager, Shadia Amblie at shadia.amblie@laclabichedcounty.com 780-623-6769.

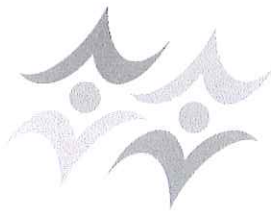
Thank you for your support regarding this important matter.

Sincerely,

Gail Broadbent
Acting Mayor, Lac La Biche County

Enclosure

cc: Lac La Biche County Councillors



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Office of the Mayor

August 15, 2012

The Honourable Alison Redford
Premier of Alberta
Room 307 Legislature Building
10800-97 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B7

RE: Retention of Medevac service standards in northern Alberta

Dear Premier Redford:

As you are aware, closure of Edmonton's City Centre Airport in 2013 will mean Medevac flights from northern Alberta must be sent to another airport. We were pleased to learn that you have been in discussions with Prime Minister Stephen Harper about using CFB Edmonton as the new primary landing site for northern Medevac flights.

We strongly support this choice as any other option would place the health and safety of patients from northern Alberta at greater risk. From our perspective, options like the Edmonton International Airport are not viable because it would increase ground transport times from 15-20 minutes to 45 minutes. A 45 minute drive to hospital upon landing is life-threatening for priority red patients. It would also lower the response standard from one of the best in Canada to one of the worst. This is a critical issue for northern communities because lives depend on it.

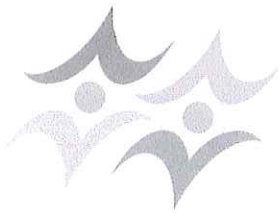
Landing fixed wing Medevac flights at CFB Edmonton would come the closest to maintaining the Medevac service standard we currently enjoy. We wish you well in your efforts to convince the Prime Minister of the need and to gain federal approval to allow regular Medevac flights into CFB Edmonton.

We have written to the Prime Minister urging him to approve your request. Please let us know if there is anything else we can do to support you. Thank you for your efforts regarding this important matter. We look forward to a positive outcome.

Sincerely,

Gail Broadbent
Acting Mayor, Lac La Biche County

cc: Honourable Fred Horne, Alberta Minister of Health
Honourable Ric McIver, Alberta Minister of Transportation
Honourable Doug Horner, Alberta Minister of Treasury Board and Finance
Lac La Biche County Councillors
Northern communities serviced by Medevac



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Office of the Mayor

August 15, 2012

Mr. Brian Jean
MP, Fort McMurray-Athabasca
Athabasca Constituency Office
5101, 50th Avenue
Athabasca, AB T9S 1T2

RE: Retention of Medevac service standards in northern Alberta

Dear Mr. Jean:

As you know, closure of Edmonton's City Centre Airport in 2013 will mean Medevac flights from northern Alberta must be sent to another airport. We understand Alberta Premier Alison Redford has been in discussions with Prime Minister Stephen Harper about using CFB Edmonton as the new primary landing site for northern Medevac flights.

We would like you to speak to the Prime Minister indicating your support of this request. Any other option would place the health and safety of patients from northern Alberta at greater risk. For example, using the Edmonton International Airport would increase ground transport times from 15-20 minutes to 45 minutes. A 45 minute drive to hospital upon landing is life-threatening for priority red patients. It would also lower the response standard from one of the best in Canada to one of the worst.

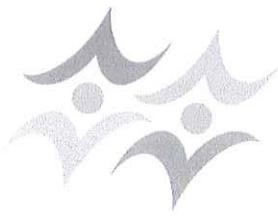
Landing fixed wing Medevac flights at CFB Edmonton would come the closest to maintaining the Medevac service standard we currently enjoy. This is a critical issue for northern communities because lives depend on it. We hope you will do everything you can to convince the Prime Minister of the need and gain federal approval for regular Medevac flights into CFB Edmonton.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to learn more about our concerns or if we can be of assistance in gaining the necessary approvals. Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Gail Broadbent
Acting Mayor, Lac La Biche County

cc: Lac La Biche County Councillors
Northern communities serviced by Medevac



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Office of the Mayor

August 15, 2012

Prime Minister of Canada
The Right Honourable Stephen Harper
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

RE: Retention of Medevac service standards in northern Alberta

Dear Prime Minister Harper:

Closure of Edmonton's City Centre Airport in 2013 will mean Medevac flights from northern Alberta must be sent to another airport. We understand you have been in discussions with Alberta Premier Alison Redford about using CFB Edmonton as the new primary landing site for northern Medevac flights.

We would like to urge you to approve this request as any other option would place the health and safety of patients from northern Alberta at greater risk. Other options, like the Edmonton International Airport, would increase ground transport times from 15-20 minutes to 45 minutes. A 45 minute drive to hospital upon landing is life-threatening for priority red patients. It would also lower the response standard from one of the best in Canada to one of the worst.

Landing fixed wing Medevac flights at CFB Edmonton would come the closest to maintaining the Medevac service standard we currently enjoy. We have been in touch with dozens of northern communities who would be affected by this change. It is a critical issue for us because lives depend on it. We hope you will make the right decision and work with our Premier and provincial officials to ready CFB Edmonton for Medevac flights.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to learn more about our concerns or if we can be of assistance in gaining the necessary approvals. Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your decision.

Sincerely,

Gail Broadbent
Acting Mayor, Lac La Biche County

cc: Alberta Premier Allison Redford
Honourable Doug Horner, Alberta Minister of Treasury Board and Finance
Brian Jean, MP for Fort McMurray-Athabasca
Lac La Biche County Councillors
Northern communities serviced by Medevac