

Ministry of Health and
Long-Term Care

Emergency Health
Services Branch

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Ministry of Health and
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Health Services I&IT Cluster

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March 17, 2011

Norman Gale
President, AMEMSO
c/o 401 E. Donald Street,
Thunder Bay ON P7E5V1

Dear Mr. Gale:

As you are aware, the Emergency Health Services Branch (EHSB) jointly with the Health Services Cluster (HSC) convened a number of meetings in January with AMEMSO appointed representatives to discuss the Ontario Labour Relations Board Ruling affecting the County of Essex and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care regarding portable radios and protocols for emergency button testing/flagging potential hazardous addresses.

These consultations proved effective and a number of decisions were made concerning the issues. Consequently the Ministry will be increasing the province's network portable radio scale of issue from one (1) to two (2), per on duty ambulance crew. The Ministry will be providing the second radio beginning immediately. This will be achieved utilizing the HSC Technical Officers associated with each Central Ambulance Communication Centres (CACC). HSC will be in contact with each ambulance service provider to coordinate the distribution of radios and associated gear.

Later this summer province wide protocols for the emergency button testing and hazardous address flagging will be released with implementation plans.

Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

Gary Bragagnolo
Senior Manager
Emergency Health Services Branch

Liz Hyland
Senior Manager
Health Services I&IT Cluster