

December 13, 2018

Government of Alberta Releases EMS Action Plan

The five-point plan is intended to improve emergency medical service throughout the province

On December 7, 2018, the Government of Alberta announced a **five-point emergency medical services (EMS) action plan**, which is supported by a \$29 million increase in EMS funding announced in the 2018 provincial budget.

The plan includes new ambulances and EMS staff in both urban and rural areas (including the expansion of ambulance service to 24/7 in four rural areas), as well strategies to improve the transfer of patients from paramedic teams to hospital emergency departments. The plan also invests \$1 million to support the mental health of EMS staff, which aligns with RMA's position on the need for effective mental health and clinical counselling services to emergency first responders, as identified in **resolution 12-17F**.

RMA will share further details on the strategy as they become available.

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