Exercise Tests Response to Mock Terrorist Attack

A mock terrorist attack was staged in downtown Vancouver, causing chaos and testing emergency response systems. The exercise involved multiple agencies working together to manage the crisis, demonstrating the importance of coordinated efforts in disaster management.

Richmond Firefighters Climb for Kids

A group of Richmond firefighters has formed the “Climb For Wishes” team, aiming to raise funds for Make-A-Wish Canada. The climb, scheduled for May, will take place at the Vancouver EOC, with the objective of raising $203,000.

Sunshine Coast Mine Rescue

The Sunshine Coast Mine Rescue exercise tested the response of emergency services to a hypothetical mine disaster. The evacuation of mining victims and the coordination of rescue efforts were key components of the exercise, showcasing the need for well-organized emergency response plans.

Delta to Join E-Comm Radio System

Delta Council has approved the transition to the E-Comm radio system, which will enhance communication and coordination among emergency services in the region.

E-Comm Quarterly Newsletter

This newsletter highlights the importance of shared communications and the benefits of the E-Comm radio system. It features stories about real-life situations where the power of shared communications has made a significant difference.
neighbourhood provided plenty of places for observes Sgt. Jansen. “There were so many coordinated. Everyone’s the search was tightly communication and that the responding members and numerous members from different police agencies involved. We had to make sure all of the responding members were in constant communication. Everyone’s safety depended on it.”

The suspect was spotted moving through the neighbourhood and an alert neighbour saw him the neighbourhood and an spotted moving through

required surgery, but is expected to make a full attempt

in hospital, charged with four counts of injuries when police returned fire. He remains within the GVRD. The system provides better security. Recently, The Corporation of Delta announced it will transition both its police and fire departments to the E-Comm radio system. Criminals much easier,” he said. “This was not your average search," notes Sgt. Jansen. "The tactical operation would have been much smaller in scale and that would have left the possibility that the suspect could have escaped. The E-Comm radio system made everyone immediately useful because everyone was plugged into communications from the get-go.

The New Westminster Police Service joined the E-Comm Radio System in May 2002. Not long after the NWPS transition, Chief Lorne Zapotichny accurately predicted the radio system would prove invaluable for New Westminster for a variety of reasons including the close proximity to other municipalities. "It is going to make apprehending criminals much easier," he said in a May 2002 interview with E-Communiqué, because for the first time we will be able to communicate directly with police forces outside our jurisdiction. The impact on public and officer safety is immense." More than 4,800 radios are currently in use within the GVRD. The system provides better radio coverage, including in-building coverage, enhanced personnel safety capabilities (emergency buttons), increased reliability, higher peak traffic capacity, and improved security. Recently, The Corporation of Delta announced it will transition both its police and fire departments to the E-Comm radio system.

New Appointments

Director of Human Resources
Anne Smith has been named E-Comm’s new Director of Human Resources & Labour Relations. Anne is responsible for overseeing Recruitment, Training and Development, Labour Relations, Performance Management, Compensation, Benefits Administration, Employee Orientation, Coaching and Mentering.

Anne holds a Certified Human Resources Professional designation and has more than 25 years Human Resources experience in both the private and public sectors. Before joining E-Comm, Anne worked as the Director of Human Resources for the City of Richmond for approximately 10 years, and was the Director of Human Resources, B.C. Region for a national accounting firm.

Wireless Operations
Peter Gauthier has been appointed Acting Director of Wireless Services, Engineering & Operations, replacing Shahir Popatia. Peter joined E-Comm in March 1999 following a 26-year career in the airline industry where he held the most senior technical position at Canadian Airlines, responsible for all ground-based radio communications. Peter received his radio training in the Canadian Armed Forces and has been instrumental in the development and successful roll out of the E-Comm Wide-Area Radio System and in-house maintenance program. Peter is accountable for E-Comm’s mobile data and voice technology systems. Peter was also a member of the Vancouver Police Department’s Reserve and is currently a Traffic Authority member. He has also served as an RCMP Auxiliary member while living in Alberta.

British Columbia Awarded World Police & Fire Games

The World Police and Fire Games Federation has awarded the 2009 World Police and Fire Games to British Columbia. The approval came after a three-day site inspection, a thorough review of the Bid Book, and a one-hour presentation by the Bid Committee. E-Comm was among the venues visited during the evaluation visit. The British Columbia Games will be staged July 31-August 9 and will consist of 64 sports at 40 venues, stretching from Squamish to Chilliwack. The Games will now become a 20th anniversary celebration as British Columbia hosted the 1989 World Police and Fire Games. The 2009 Games are expected to draw close to 12,000 participants from all parts of the world.

“The Federation Directors were really impressed with the quality of the British Columbia Bid,” says Dave Kent, a Burnaby Fire Department Captain and one of two Canadians on the International Committee. E-Comm was among the venues visited during the evaluation visit. The British Columbia Games will be staged July 31-August 9 and will consist of 64 sports at 40 venues, stretching from Squamish to Chilliwack.

The Games will now become a 20th anniversary celebration as British Columbia hosted the 1989 World Police and Fire Games. The 2009 Games are expected to draw close to 12,000 participants from all parts of the world.

“The Federation Directors were really impressed with the quality of the British Columbia Bid,” says Dave Kent, a Burnaby Fire Department Captain and one of two Canadians on the International Committee. E-Comm was among the venues visited during the evaluation visit.

The British Columbia Ambulance Service will be able to significantly improve its ability to respond quickly and effectively to larger-scale medical emergencies," says M. linter H.ansen. The vehicles will be stationed at local British Columbia Ambulance Service facilities and staffed by ambulance personnel.

Editor’s Notes
In the spring issue of E-Communiqué, we inadvertently left the New Westminster Police Board off the list of independent police boards represented by our newest Board member, Ross M. Montgomery. Our apologies to M. linter M. Montgomery and the New Westminster Police Board for the omission. A special thank you to Gerry M. Arns, M. anager, Administration Division, S/Sgt Casey de Haas, S/Sgt David Jansen and dispatcher George R. all, all of the New Westminster Police Service, for their assistance on the feature story in this edition of E-Communiqué.