



MANITOBA



SASKATCHEWAN

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

ON MUTUAL AID DURING EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND A
FUTURE PARTNERSHIP FOR BETTER STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

BETWEEN

THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA, THROUGH THE
OFFICE OF THE FIRE COMMISSIONER

AND

THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN, THROUGH
THE OFFICE OF THE FIRE COMMISSIONER

(HEREINAFTER JOINTLY REFERRED TO AS THE "PARTICIPANTS")

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba (“Manitoba”) and the Province of Saskatchewan (“Saskatchewan”) are preparing for significant potential spring flooding in 2011;

WHEREAS both Manitoba and Saskatchewan have a long history of cooperation on issues of mutual interest to both provinces, including working together on emergency management and becoming signatories to the Provincial/Territorial Memorandum of Understanding for Emergency Management Assistance;

WHEREAS the governments of both Manitoba and Saskatchewan wish to build on this tradition of mutual aid and assistance during major emergencies in either of the two provinces;

THEREFORE the Participants to this Memorandum intend to undertake the following:

A. PURPOSE

1. This Memorandum specifically relates to equipment and staff under the direction and control of the Office of the Fire Commissioner from both provinces, and may serve as a framework for the further development of cooperation between the offices in the future.

B. SCOPE

1. For the purposes of mitigating and responding to emergencies, this Memorandum authorizes the Fire Commissioner (or designate) from each province to seek mutual aid and assistance, at no cost, from the office of the Fire Commissioner in the other province.
2. The provision of requested aid is not obligatory, and neither Province can be held accountable should resources not be available for mutual aid.

C. SPECIFIC COOPERATIVE EFFORTS

1. For the purposes of expanding the cooperation and aligning strategic plans between provinces, the Participants agree to explore the strategic alignment between the offices of the Fire Commissioner for both provinces.
2. This work may include, but is not limited to, the following topic areas:
 - Interoperability and the strategic alignment of goals and visions at Provincial and Municipal levels, as well as in First Nations communities;
 - Shared response and coordination capacities and capabilities, including Heavy

- Urban Search and Rescue;
- The sharing and coordination of data, information, and technology, including fire statistics, 9-1-1 call-taking, and radio communications; and,
- Training, including strategies, curriculum development, and certification for municipal officials, emergency responders, and internal staff.

D. IMPLEMENTATION

1. The Fire Commissioners from Manitoba and Saskatchewan shall report to their Minister, through their Deputy Minister, on the progress and status of this cooperative venture before December 31, 2011.
2. No contractual, legal or financial obligations are created by the signing of this Memorandum.
3. This Memorandum comes into effect on the date it is signed by the Participants.
4. This Memorandum may be amended by agreement of the Participants in writing at any time.
5. Either Participant may terminate its involvement in this Memorandum by giving three months' prior notice in writing to the other Participant.

Signed in duplicate in Brandon, Manitoba on this 11th day of February, 2011.

[original signed by]

 The Honourable Don McMorris
 Minister of Health
 On behalf of
 The Honourable D.F. (Yogi) Huyghebaert
 Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing

[original signed by]

 The Honourable Steve Ashton
 Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation
 On behalf of
 The Honourable Jennifer Howard
 Minister of Labour and Immigration

[original signed by]

 Witnessed by
 The Honourable Ken Krawetz
 Deputy Premier of Saskatchewan

[original signed by]

 Witnessed by
 The Honourable Greg Selinger
 Premier of Manitoba

