

August 2015

Ambulance Stations and Facilities

- BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) has 183 ambulance stations and five aircraft bases located throughout the province. BCEHS also has four administrative offices in Prince George, Kamloops, Vancouver and Victoria and fifteen offices for district managers located throughout the province.
- The BCEHS Facilities Department is responsible for creating and maintaining safe, comfortable and cost-effective ambulance stations throughout the province to support paramedics providing high quality pre-hospital patient care. Annually, BCEHS spends \$21 million to operate and maintain its facilities.
- Over the last three years, BCEHS has invested \$24.4 million on the following facilities projects:
 - Undertaking maintenance and repair work, including the replacement of broken or worn-out furniture at various stations across the province (\$8.5 million);
 - Completing new facilities or significant renovations at a number of locations such as Southside, Riondel, Quadra Island, Denman Island, Langford, Bowser, Mackenzie, and Bella Bella (\$9.9 million);
 - Renovating all three dispatch centres in Kamloops, Vancouver and Victoria and the new BC Patient Transfer Network site and BCEHS Learning work spaces in Vancouver, as well as providing more task-appropriate furniture (\$6 million).
- In 2014/2015, paramedics moved into new BCEHS ambulance stations at the Lionsgate Hospital in North Vancouver, the Surrey Memorial Hospital, as well as in Bowser, Bella Bella and MacKenzie.
- Ambulance stations include several amenities:
 - Training areas to help paramedics enhance and maintain their skills;
 - Storage space for ambulance restocking;
 - Rest areas for paramedics;
 - Kitchen and rest rooms; and
 - Office space for undertaking administrative work.
- BCEHS is continuing a relatively new initiative of utilizing modular structures for the construction of ambulance stations in a cost-effective approach to providing quality crew quarters. Modular crew quarters are now in place in Winlaw, Grassy Plains, Riondel, Richmond, and on Saltspring, Quadra and Denman islands.