



Bhar Sihota  
Union of BC Municipalities  
Suite 60-10551 Shellbridge Way Richmond, BC  
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Dear Bhar Sihota:

I am writing to inform you that the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General is reinvigorating work related to 911 emergency communications service delivery in BC, and has engaged Mr. David Guscott to assist with this work. Mr. Guscott brings over a decade of experience in emergency communications and was a former President and CEO of E-Comm, Emergency Communications for British Columbia Incorporated.

The Ministry is aware that challenges exist to the effective provision of 911 services remain, such as the reduction in traditional funding for 911 services with the shift away from landlines to cellular phones and the Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) timelines for the implementation and provision of Next Generation 911. The CRTC mandates that network carriers be ready to provide 911 voice calls by June 2020 and text messaging over Internet-Protocol networks by the end of 2020.

To provide the Province with an up to date understanding of BC's readiness to respond to these challenges, the Ministry is seeking input from key groups, including local governments, police agencies, and entities that interface with the emergency communications system.

While Mr. Guscott undertakes his work, my Ministry will re engage with relevant areas of government including Emergency Management BC, Ministry of Attorney General, Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing, as well as Citizens' Services. We anticipate ongoing discussion as a balanced Next Generation 911 strategy develops.

Mr. Guscott will be initiating a targeted stakeholder engagement process, and as such will be in contact with you in the near future.

We look forward to hearing your input on this important initiative.

Mark Sieben  
Deputy Solicitor General