



Manitoba Paramedics... Responding for Life

August 9, 2006

Hon. Gord Mackintosh
Room 104, Legislative Bldg.
450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB. R3C 0V8

Dear Minister Mackintosh:

The Paramedic Association of Manitoba was very pleased by comments attributed to you in today's Winnipeg Free Press (Memorials for on-duty deaths) regarding the Government's commitment to see permanent memorials built to honour police officers, fire fighters and paramedics who perish in the line of duty. This project is poised to offer commendable recognition of the sacrifices made by our emergency services personnel across the province.

While it is admirable to note that paramedics were included within the personnel to be honoured in the scope of this joint venture, it is somewhat disappointing to see it suggested that fire fighters and paramedics will share a memorial. The roles and responsibilities of our paramedics in the provision of health care and public safety are very unique, as are those of fire fighters and police officers within their respective professions. As such, I think it would be most appropriate to erect three memorials and pay tribute to all three disciplines for the important and distinct services they provide.

The Paramedic Association of Manitoba is the professional association for licensed pre-hospital practitioners in this province. With membership throughout Manitoba, we are in an excellent position to provide representation to assist with the planning of these memorials. I would like to recommend that you include a representative from our organization on the committee tasked with completing this project.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Sincerely,
Original signed by

Eric Glass
Chairman
Paramedic Association of Manitoba

c.c. Hon. Tim Sale
Alex Forrest, President UFFW
Kelvin Goertzen, MLA