



MLA, MACKENZIE DELTA

MAR 15 2016

QQ108-18(2) Boats for Aklavik RCMP Detachment

On March 2, 2016, you asked questions in the Legislative Assembly regarding why the RCMP had taken the police boat out of Aklavik and moved it to Inuvik. You also asked that the RCMP boat be returned to Aklavik before the end of the ice road season, in case it is needed for emergencies over the spring breakup.

As you are aware, the internal management of the RCMP (including decisions on resource allocation related to equipment, vehicles and boats) remains the purview of RCMP Senior Management in "G" Division. In determining where to situate resources, the RCMP conducts a needs analysis and bases their decision on a number of factors including necessity, calls for service and financial viability.

In response to your specific questions, the Department of Justice has been advised by RCMP "G" Division that the police boat in Inuvik was decommissioned due to a structural fracture in the hull. After completing a risk assessment, the RCMP determined that Inuvik required another police boat immediately due to a high demand for search and rescue calls. In 2015 during the ice road season, the Aklavik police boat was transferred to the Inuvik Detachment.

In completing their risk assessment the RCMP drafted a contingency plan for search and rescue calls for Aklavik. The boat sent to Inuvik will continue to assist the Aklavik detachment for searches and general patrols as needed. The RCMP also received assurances from Aklavik's local search and rescue group that it had a sufficient number of boats to assist with searches if needed, as long as the RCMP covered operating costs. The RCMP is satisfied that it can continue to meet the search and rescue needs for both the Aklavik and Inuvik Detachments with this plan.

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The RCMP has been working with the Department of Justice, to secure funding for the replacement of the decommissioned boat in Inuvik in 2016/17. If that vessel is replaced, the RCMP will make a determination, based on needs and fiscal realities at that time, if a police boat should be located in Aklavik.

Thank you for your questions, and I trust the foregoing response clarifies the decisions that were made by the RCMP "G" Division in this circumstance.



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Minister of Justice

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Clerk, Legislative Assembly

Ms. Sylvia Haener,
Deputy Minister, Justice

Mr. David Hastings,
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