



*Deputy Premier
Office of the Minister
MLA, Edmonton-Glenora*

AR 140808

APR 05 2017

Lisa Holmes, President
Alberta Urban Municipalities Association
300 – 8616 51 Avenue NW
Edmonton, Alberta
T6E 6E6

Dear Linda Holmes:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association resolution on cost recovery for lift assists by municipal medical first response (MFR) agencies.

MFR agencies such as fire departments work with Alberta Health Services Emergency Medical Services (AHS EMS) to provide initial medical aid to Alberta communities. AHS EMS aids MFR agencies through a provincial registry program where registered MFR agencies have access to a number of supports and services. Through this program, each municipality is responsible for determining the level of MFR service they will provide, including the types of medical calls, if any, to which they will respond.

In addition to this voluntary MFR role, fire departments also serve a municipal public safety role (as defined by each individual municipality). The public safety role includes the provision of services in situations where patient extrication is required (such as patient extrication from motor vehicles), low or high-angle rescue, patient entrapment, or any other situation in which patient removal is required. This includes lift assists. The Ministry of Health has no plans to develop a cost recovery arrangement for MFR agencies.

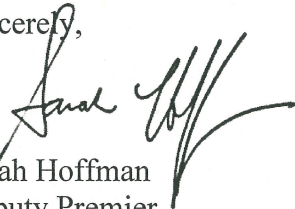
If you would like additional information about the Ministry's position on cost recovery for MFR services, please contact Bre Hutchinson, Acting Director, Emergency Health Services at 780-644-3276 or bre.hutchinson@gov.ab.ca.

.../2

Lisa Holmes
Page 2

Thank you again for sharing your association's resolution with me.

Sincerely,



Sarah Hoffman
Deputy Premier
Minister of Health

cc: Bre Hutchinson, Acting Director, Emergency Health Services, Alberta Health