



News Release

For Immediate Release

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CREST Improvements Test Positive

Victoria – Results of testing done on the CREST radio system show significant improvements in reliability and building penetration says a report from consultants hired to do the tests.

“We’re very pleased by the results of the testing,” said CREST chair Gordie Logan. “The system is performing well and is providing much better in-building coverage.”

RCC Consultants, Inc. conducted the tests as part of an independent review of \$10.6 million in improvements made to the CREST system over the past year. Tom Gray, vice-president and general manager of RCC’s western region said, “based on our analysis, the CREST system meets public safety performance expectations for the urban and rural areas served in the CRD service area.” The report notes significant improvements in the urban core including in-building performance.

As part of the recent upgrades, CREST put a new transmission site in the urban core, made improvements to seven existing transmission sites, added 16 new receivers throughout the Capital Region, and installed in-vehicle repeaters in over 50 fire department vehicles.

“The work however, will not stop here,” said Logan. “We are committed to continuing to make improvements, specifically in the downtown core and in moving towards 700 mhz – a spectrum used exclusively for public safety communications with the ability to penetrate barriers more effectively. Doing so, will also help to address VicPD’s ongoing operational needs.”

CREST operates a wide-area radio system that processes a call every four seconds on average for 36 emergency service providers in the Capital Region.

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