



Lanark County Paramedic Service
84 Lorne Street
Smiths Falls, Ontario
K7A 5J7

Date: April 07, 2025

Subject: Letter of Support for the Tracked Stretcher/Carrier

To Whom It May Concern,

As Chief of Lanark County Paramedic Service (LCPS), I am pleased to offer my full support for the Tracked Stretcher/Carrier — an innovative and much-needed advancement in prehospital care. This device has the potential to significantly improve both patient outcomes and responder safety, especially in environments where traditional stretcher systems are ineffective.

Throughout my leadership at LCPS, I have worked to ensure that our paramedics are equipped not only with the training but also the tools necessary to deliver the highest quality care. Initiatives such as introducing Autonomous Intravenous (AIV) certification for Primary Care Paramedics and expanding the Advanced Care Paramedic program have empowered our team to provide more advanced interventions in the field.

In the same spirit of progress, the Tracked Stretcher/Carrier represents a practical, forward-thinking solution to one of the most persistent challenges in emergency response: safely reaching and transporting patients in rough, remote, or obstructed terrain. Unlike conventional stretchers, this device enables paramedics to navigate snow, mud, rock, and other difficult surfaces with greater ease and speed. This not only enhances response times but also ensures that patients receive care sooner, even in the most challenging conditions.

Beyond mobility, the carrier significantly reduces the physical strain placed on paramedics during extractions. By minimizing the lifting and manual hauling required, it helps prevent common workplace injuries such as musculoskeletal strain — an important step toward improving workforce sustainability and reducing associated costs. Additionally, the increased load capacity allows teams to bring more equipment to the scene, without compromising safety or maneuverability. What truly elevates the utility of this platform is its capacity to power critical care devices, including cardiac monitors, ventilators, and communications systems — transforming it from a transport device into a mobile care platform.

In a region like Lanark County, where geography and climate frequently add complexity to our responses, a tool like this can have a meaningful, even life-saving impact. It aligns with our mission to continually advance the capabilities of our service, and I am confident that it will serve as a valuable asset not only for our team but for paramedic services across the province and beyond.

I strongly endorse the continued development and integration of the Tracked Stretcher/Carrier into emergency medical systems. It represents a significant step forward in responder safety, patient care, and operational readiness.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Mellema".

Travis Mellema
Chief