

2025-03-28

To Whom it may concern:

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to voice my support for Mr. Jason Watt and partners as they develop their stretcher. As an emergency medicine physician who works both in rural communities and a regional trauma centre, I frequently encounter delays due to prolonged extraction of critically ill patients. Many of these factors are outside EMS providers control, relating to distinct geography and climate. Excessive delays in extraction lead directly to increased morbidity and mortality. The current equipment that we have available to EMS providers does not allow for teams to extract patients over long distances and uneven terrain effectively.

The development and invention of a tracked, self-propelled mechanized stretcher has many important benefits for both patients and healthcare services. This includes decreasing injuries for patients and the EMS providers, improving response time over difficult terrain, and allowing more equipment to be brought to austere environments for a patient in need.

Mr. Jason Watt, through his work as both a paramedic and nurse in multiple emergency departments and regions across Canada understands the environmental realities of prehospital and transport medicine and caring for patients. Furthermore, his work providing first aid on ski hills allows him to understand where current equipment falls short for our patient population.

I believe there is a distinct need for this type of equipment and investments in its development would be a worthy endeavor. Canada is at a critical juncture wherein we need to be investing in homegrown technologies to help our community, nurture our economy and reduce our reliance on other countries. There is a real opportunity for us to lead in this space.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Beamish". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" and last name "Beamish" clearly distinguishable.

*Dr. Daniel Beamish
FRCPC Emergency Medicine
The Ottawa Hospital and Arnprior Regional Health
Base Hospital Physician RPPEO
Prehospital and Transport Medicine Fellowship Assistant Program Director
Assistant Professor University of Ottawa*