



# **Kenora District Services Board**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**March 13, 2008**

### **Land Ambulance Going to 24 Hours**

The Kenora District Services Board has approved an enhancement to emergency medical response for the Municipality of Red Lake. Commencing March 20, 2008 the local Northwest EMS base will be staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

As part of the strategy to improve emergency response times across the district, the KDSB recognized the significant call volume in the Red Lake area and the delay in response when Paramedics were being called in from off-site locations. With the ability to administer life-saving medications and cardiac defibrillation, the ability to access a patient quickly increases the likelihood of a positive outcome for that individual.

In a five year period the call volume at the Red Lake base increased from 658 to 1142 calls per year and with the tremendous increase in mining exploration and development activity in the area, the need for an enhanced medical emergency response system was apparent.

"This is a very significant improvement to the land ambulance system in the Red Lake area," states Peter Marshall, Director of EMS for the Kenora District Services Board. "We are constantly monitoring our response capabilities throughout the district to ensure that resources are available when the need arises. Red Lake is fortunate in having a very dedicated group of Paramedics that will now be able to respond in a timely manner, 24 hours a day."

For further information, please contact:  
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