

Search and Rescue Volunteer Association of Canada



SARVAC Strategy and Sustainability

WORKSHOP 2015

sarvac.ca

SARVAC MISSION

- *"To save lives by fostering, coordinating, and encouraging response and prevention excellence in volunteer search and rescue organizations in Canada."*



SARVAC VISION

- *"To have a national community of skilled search and rescue volunteers whose contributions are valued and supported by the public and all levels of government."*



Why Sustainability

Without the proper funding the day to day operations and future efforts are affected

- Governance
- Funding and Volunteer Support
- Data Collection
- Public Awareness
- Prevention



Current Status

Two Staff with the Funding Model
Other staff – (NIF) project specific



Funding and Volunteer Support

- Sustainability funding 2015 – 2020
- Coordinated efforts are in process for continuity
- Volunteer Recognition – Tax Deductions
- Issues / Projects – Risk Management
- Sustainability / NIF



Data Collection Systems

SAR/Prevention Data

- D4H / SMART / EMwerks / Spreadsheets
- All require correlation efforts (on going)
- Intention: Spreadsheet will be available on New Website permissions will be passed to P/T Associations for data input
- Explore / Assess future system
- Result: Increased visibility of SAR efforts available to all to view



Data Collection Systems

- Knowledge Management System (KMS)
- Correlation of SAR data from all P/T into the KMS is a valid option, and is required to build an evidence based business case (on going)
- Cannot be accomplished without the support of all Associations



Prevention

Adventure Smart

Program continues to deliver quality programs to thousands of Canadians throughout the year.



Public Awareness

- Strategic Communications Plan (on going)
- Upgrading of New Website
- Social Media (Eng/Fre)
- Brochures



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SARVAC Moving Forward

June 2015 – March 2020

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Strategic Guiding principles

- **Cooperative and collaborative** - with Provinces, Territories and Federally while respecting roles & responsibilities of jurisdictions
- **Respect** - for the cultural diversity of search and rescue providers and users



Guiding principles

- **Innovative** - Creating value from new ideas and Technologies
- **Strategic** - thinking forward and acting now
- **Credible** – SARVAC will be credible and relevant
- **Balance** - SARVAC will balance SAR response activities with prevention and education to Associations/public



SARVAC Strategic Plan 2015-2020

- Board Functionality
- Training and Development
- Prevention Education
- Financial Sustainability
- Advocacy for Member Organizations
- Partnerships
- GSAR Volunteer Promotion



Governance – Board Function

- Enhance Board functionality
- Ensure the collection, analysis, interpretation and communication of data on GSAR events, GSAR capacity, credentials etc



T&D GSAR Volunteers

- Identify, accept and publish National GSAR curriculum, and competencies through CSA.
- Develop accreditation and certification approach
- Continue to define the role of GSAR volunteers in Emergency Preparedness & Response and facilitate appropriate training and development





2 February 2016

Mr. Scott Wright
President SARVAC
RR2 Site 202 COMP 127
Saskatoon Saskatchewan
CANADA S7K 3J5

Dear Mr. Wright,

NASAR is proud to recognize and support the standardization efforts of SARVAC in Canada.

Canada continues to be a leader among nations that recognize SAR as an essential public service. Canada is now the first nation to have published a core competency standard for SAR field responders, Field Team Leaders and Search Management that includes knowledge and observable performance criteria in the Z1620-15 Document.

NASAR applauds the SARVAC and SAR Secretariats efforts at developing a strong and resilient SAR program to safeguard the residents of Canada and all the visitors to its beautiful country.

NASAR endorses the Canadian SAR standards and believes that they are *the leading product* in the industry. It is obvious that the participants in developing the standards are some of the leading and most experienced responders in Canadian SAR.

NASAR is currently rewriting its educational and certification materials to be inclusive of the Canadian SAR standards to enable our continued support of SAR education and certification in Canada.

Respectfully submitted,

T&D GSAR Volunteers

- Create a single point of contact (in partnership with the GSAR NSD) and create a forum for focusing on operational GSAR best practices and information
- Develop and implement a user friendly national statistical data base



Prevention

- Prevention education of the general public

Increase the public's ability to survive in ground-based lost person incidents



Prevention

- Provide training programs and program resources to SARVAC members to aid in program delivery of PSAR programs in their jurisdictions
- Administer mechanisms to monitor and evaluate program(s) successes



Prevention

- Become the authority and resource on PSAR programs for GSAR volunteers
- Establish further strategic partnerships in SAR Prevention



Sustainability

- Obtain a national government partner (NSD) to fund core operations of SARVAC
- Access additional sustainable funding to leverage timely and urgent opportunities
- Sustain partnership with NSD



Member Advocacy

- Develop the capacity to continuously identify and monitor issues
- Advocate for the critical needs of members as appropriate
 - Risk Management
 - Project based funding
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Partnerships

- Foster strong relationship with each of our key partners (Volunteer / Government / Private / Public)
- Jointly plan and deliver training and activities as appropriate



GSAR Volunteer Promotion

- Increase the profile and recognition for GSAR volunteers within its stakeholders groups and the public
- Ensure the role and value of SARVAC is understood within SARVAC's membership, its stakeholder groups and the public



SARVAC 2020

- 15,000 SARVAC Members
- 500 Teams
- All Provinces and Territories
- An Integrated Response from all elements for Lost, Stranded and Endangered People



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SARVAC Moving Forward
Scott Wright
Harry Blackmore

June 2015 – March 2020

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