The Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary

Standing Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans
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Randy Strandt
Chair, CCGA National

Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary

- Five distinct organizations
- 4,000+ volunteers
- Quick and effective
- Coastal communities
- Community owned rescue boat or private vessel
- Volunteer Impact

Five CCGA Regions

CCGA Vessels

CCGA Asset Locations

- Newfoundland: 54
- Maritimes: 403
- Quebec: 137
- Central Arctic: 289
- Pacific: 72
A key partner in the SAR system

- Search and Rescue Region Commander
- Joint Rescue Coordination Centre
  - Royal Canadian Air Force Air Rescue
  - Canadian Coast Guard Maritime Rescue
  - RCMP Search and Rescue
  - Treas MRRS Comm/Management

Relationship with CCG

- Partnership
- Funding
- Common goals
Unity of Effort

- Shoulder to shoulder with CCG
- Sharing risks on the water
- Joint training, risk management policy, resources
- Inter-agency cooperation

Training

- Standardized training
- Leverages professional backgrounds of volunteers
- Requires commitment

Canadian Citizens

The strength of our team

Response

- Tasked by JRCC
- 2,000+ Rescues / year
- 25% of all incidents
- 170,000 hours
- 97% of all lives in danger
- Fire, Sinking, Lost
Models for Comparison

- International practice:
  - UK, Germany, Sweden, Holland, Australia, New Zealand
- Volunteers integral to maritime response
- Economy of effort
- Effective, professional, and efficient

The International Model

Value

- $37 for each $1 invested
- 200+ lives saved annually
- Volunteer tax credit

Canadian potential

- Provincial funding
- Local fundraising
Challenges

- Current program support
  - Restrictive funding model
    (contribution agreement with CCG)
  - Inadequate funding

- Support for program evolution and capacity growth

Challenges

- Funding example:
  - $500,000 for Arctic
  - Fixed for 15 years - $5.2M
  - Inflation / increasing demands
  - Will impact operations
  - Fundraising

Broader Challenges

- Lack of nationally-directed SAR integration (ground, air, marine)
- Ad hoc national approach to volunteer public safety programs
- Flexibility for integration with industry
- Preparation beyond specific mandates
Opportunities

- Increased utilization in core mandate
  - Benefit of increased use / expansion of volunteer service
  - Cost effective way to increase capacity / response
  - Mitigates risks of inadequate resources available

Opportunities

- Expanded response capacity
  - Natural disasters / major incidents
  - Environmental incidents
  - Reduce loss of life, suffering, and property damage
  - Trained and experienced incident commanders

Opportunities

- Further integration with CCG
- SAR integration (ground, air, marine)
- Support to environmental response operations
- Reduce risk through community capacity building
- Cooperation with industry and NGOs

Conclusion

- Capable and passionate volunteers
- Partners in SAR and public safety
- Representative of the values of Canadians
- A model for effective innovation