



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HALO Air Ambulance and Cypress County launch pilot project to combat wildfires

June 4, 2024 — HALO Air Ambulance, southern Alberta’s only dedicated helicopter air ambulance and public safety program, in collaboration with Cypress County, proudly announces the launch of a groundbreaking pilot project aimed at enhancing wildfire response capabilities within the region.

“This partnership represents a significant step forward in our ongoing efforts to strengthen community resilience and safety,” says Paul Carolan, CEO of HALO Air Ambulance. “By combining HALO’s aerial expertise with Cypress County’s frontline firefighting capabilities, we are better equipped to protect lives, property, and natural resources from the devastating impact of wildfires.”

The innovative collaboration between HALO Air Ambulance and Cypress County signifies a shared commitment to proactive community service and emergency preparedness.

“We are excited to partner with HALO Air Ambulance on this transformative initiative,” says Jason Linton, Emergency Services Coordinator and Fire Chief for Cypress County. “Through this partnership, we are enhancing our ability to respond swiftly and effectively to wildfires, ultimately ensuring the safety and well-being of our communities.”

The pilot project will see HALO Air Ambulance provide real-time aerial reconnaissance and rapid deployment of initial attack resource support to Cypress County Emergency Services during wildfire incidents. Equipped with advanced communications and staffed by highly trained professionals, HALO-1 will offer invaluable situational awareness and logistical support to ground crews, enabling more effective and efficient firefighting operations.

Through joint training exercises, resource sharing, and ongoing collaboration, both organizations are dedicated to advancing wildfire response capabilities and ensuring the safety and well-being of residents across the region.

For more information about HALO Air Ambulance and Cypress County, please visit www.haloairambulance.com or www.cypress.ab.ca.

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About HALO Air Ambulance:

HALO Air Ambulance is Southern Alberta's only dedicated Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) Program. Since our first mission in 2007, HALO Air Ambulance has flown thousands of missions, impacting countless lives.

Partnering with regional and provincial stakeholders, HALO responds to a variety of calls for services including; emergency medical scene calls, critical care inter-facility patient transfers, search & rescue, fire rescue, and law enforcement incidents, and all-hazard disaster responses.

The availability of the helicopter, strategically based in Medicine Hat, Alberta, improves the response time to critically ill and injured patients in remote and inaccessible areas and increases our capacity for delivering qualitative medical care and rescue services.

About Cypress County Emergency Services:

Cypress County prides itself on fire protection and emergency response services in one of Alberta's largest rural municipalities. Comprised of dedicated firefighters and support staff, Cypress County is committed to safeguarding lives, property, and the environment through proactive prevention, preparedness, and response initiatives. With a focus on community engagement and collaboration, Cypress County is a trusted partner in ensuring the safety and resilience of our communities.