

“Lifeguard”

Saskatchewan Air Ambulance

Fact Sheet

History

First Flight: February 3, 1946 - Regina to Liberty (round trip)

Original Aircraft: Norseman monoplane

Current base: John Diefenbaker International Airport, Saskatoon

Partners: Saskatoon Health Region: service management; medical, nursing and paramedic support; dispatch services (St. Paul's Hospital, MD Ambulance)

Saskatchewan Health: service funding and administration

Saskatchewan Property Management: aviation management

Aircraft

2001 Beechcraft King Air B-200 (2)

Capacity: 2 stretchers

1990 Piper Cheyenne III-A

Capacity: 1 stretcher

The aircraft carry monitoring equipment, medical supplies and medications similar to those found in an intensive care unit, including:

- advanced airway and ventilatory support equipment
- invasive pressure monitoring
- cardiac monitoring, pacemaker, hands-free defibrillator, 12 lead ECG monitoring
- Neonatal Transport System (critical care equipped)
- IV infusion devices with critical care drug index

Service Capacity

Lifeguard provides 24-hour service under most weather conditions, and makes over 1,300 flights per year, an average of more than three trips every day.

Staff

The service employs approximately 50 staff members, including pilots, Registered Nurses, Critical Care Paramedics, dispatchers and maintenance personnel. Teams are also available for specialized transport such as neonatal and pediatric cases.

- Flight crew members are well versed in northern operations and high density traffic operations. Pilots have a minimum of 5,000 hours experience.
- Flight nurses are RNs trained in extended role critical care transport. Flight paramedics are trained to the critical care level (CCP).
- The flight crew works with a team of capable dispatchers and maintenance personnel to preserve an impressive safety record, having never lost a passenger or crew member in a crash.