

CANADIAN FORCES PLANE TO AIRLIFT SUPPLIES

Mock Emergency Exercise In Full Swing In Thunder Bay

NEWS

November 21, 2008

Rescue equipment, supplies, personnel, and search and rescue dogs will be airlifted via a Canadian Forces transport airplane from Toronto to Thunder Bay as part of the largest emergency response exercise held in recent Canadian history. Exercise Trillium Response, which began on November 17th, is a multi-jurisdictional disaster response exercise that simulates the consequences of a massive ice storm in northwestern Ontario.

Emergency Management Ontario and the Canadian Forces are jointly leading the exercise. It involves more than 1,500 participants from 40 different [organizations](#) including provincial ministries, federal departments, municipalities, First Nations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

Today's air movement from Toronto Pearson International Airport to Thunder Bay International Airport is testing the rapid response capability of the Heavy Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR) team following the staged collapse of local buildings with more than 100 people fictionally trapped inside.

QUOTES

"If disaster strikes, the Government of Ontario needs to know that we are ready to tackle the unexpected and most difficult of challenges to ensure Ontarians are kept safe," said Community Safety and Correctional Services Minister [Rick Bartolucci](#).

QUICK FACTS

The Toronto HUSAR is a multi-skilled task force made up of fire, police, emergency medical staff, physicians and other specialists who respond to large-scale emergencies that require unique search-and-rescue techniques and resources including highly trained dogs.

LEARN MORE

Read about exercise Trillium Response and [emergency management](#) in Ontario.

Read the [timeline](#) of the mock emergency.