

January 12, 2010

New vendor selected for Emergency Public Warning System upgrade

Edmonton... Black Coral Inc. of Ottawa is the successful vendor for the Alberta Emergency Public Warning System Modernization Request for Proposal.

The system alerts Albertans about emergencies and severe weather through television and radio, and also delivers AMBER Alert notifications when a child is abducted.

“We are looking forward to working with Black Coral on the development of a new and enhanced public alerting system,” said Colin Lloyd, Executive Director of Operations with the Alberta Emergency Management Agency.

When fully upgraded, Alberta’s new public alerting system will take advantage of new and emerging technologies such as satellite and web-based alerting, while continuing to use traditional television and radio media.

There will be no disruption of the Alberta Early Public Warning System during the system upgrade. The new system is expected to be in place at the end of 2010.

Lloyd commended CKUA radio for working with government to develop and support Canada’s first provincewide public alerting system. “We have tremendously valued the support and professionalism of CKUA over the last 17 years in the operation of Alberta’s Emergency Public Warning System. They have made an outstanding contribution to public safety and we thank them for the role they have played.”

The Government of Alberta consulted with stakeholders and media partners on ways to improve and enhance the existing system. A Request for Proposal was issued in the spring of 2009.

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