

Subject: Angus Woodman--Heli pad Project

Fist off I just want to say that I am so grateful to the emergency services that exist in our town. I had major ski accident in the winter of 2015 in which I had an open book fracture of my Pelvis and a complex/compound fracture in the upper 1/3 of my left femur. The care and attention I had throughout my recovery was world class and I am happy to report that within a year of the accident I was playing a “good” game of squash!!



Of all the first aid courses that I have taken over the years the first rule injury management is the “Golden” hour, which is the first hour after a traumatic injury which is considered the most critical for successful emergency treatment. From the time of my accident to the point at which I was admitted into QVH was just over 2 hours. Due to this delay my body temperature had been reduced to less than 32 degrees and give the nature of my injury and the internal bleeding that was occurring I was in sever distress when I arrived at QVH. Speed and rapid response to accidents is critical to the likelihood of the survival as well as quicker recovery. Having a helicopter pad landing site at QVH would definitely factor into the decisions that rescues would make and would result in a faster response time in getting injured people to primary care. Emergency Services (Ambulance) and patient transfer’s take time. Whether that is passing off from in my case ski patrol to Ambulance attendant, or Ambulance attendant to hospital staff, or from Ambulance attendant to Air Ambulance, or Air Ambulance to Hospital....each one of these moves takes time. With each move involving and Ambulance puts the critical patient back on the road as they transfer from one site to another which often puts the patient in even greater

danger. I often talk with my family/friends about the “loser” lap in reference to the amount of times that I was passed off from care to care to care and the associated time loss that occurred during the initial hours of my injury response. Having the ability to remove only one of the “loser” laps would reduce the response time by 15 mins which would go a long way to ensure that the Golden Hour is maintained.

I strongly support the development and creation of a Helipad at QVH, and feel that this would serve as a critical piece of the injury management puzzle.