



ORNGE STATEMENT ON ROTOR WING OPERATIONS

On March 31, 2009, Ornge Air (Ornge) purchased from Canadian Helicopters Limited (CHL) eleven medically equipped Sikorsky S-76 helicopters and aviation assets including four hangars located in Ottawa, Moosonee, Kenora and London. As part of this agreement, CHL agreed to continue to provide services in support of Ornge's transport medicine operation for a period of three years ending March 31, 2012. Ornge was given the option, at its sole discretion, to extend the lease for an additional two years.

On Thursday, September 30, 2010, Ornge formally notified CHL of its intention not to exercise its option to extend the term of the Agreement for an additional two years, and as a result, the term of the agreement will end on March 31, 2012

In the spirit of co-operation, Ornge has provided CHL with early notice of its decision and is committed to working closely with CHL to ensure an orderly and responsible transition to Ornge Air.

"When Ornge was appointed to take over operations of the air ambulance system in 2006, we immediately began looking at ways to improve the medical transport system and to make it more sustainable and efficient" said Dr. Chris Mazza, president and CEO of Ornge.

In 2009, Ornge introduced a new business model with the introduction of Ornge Air which provides fixed wing Pilatus PC-12 airplanes, staffed with Ornge pilots and paramedics to provide advanced and critical care transports for Ontario patients.

Ornge's business strategy, which includes hiring pilots and purchasing both fixed and rotor-wing aircraft, is consistent with its ongoing efforts to make the province's medical transport service more sustainable and efficient. This new business model will not only enable Ornge to contain the escalating costs associated with transport medicine services, but more importantly it will allow it to enhance and expand services for Ontario patients.

Ornge has started active recruiting efforts for helicopter pilots and maintenance engineers and will providing training for the new state-of-the-art AgustaWestland AW139 medically equipped helicopters. Ornge has also started the application process with Transport Canada for rotor operations in Ontario. This is another step in ensuring the transport medicine system in Ontario is sustainable for generations to come.

Ornge, and previously the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, have enjoyed a 25 year relationship with CHL and we will continue to work with them during the transition period. The outstanding CHL pilots and maintenance staff continue to be an integral part of the medical teams and without them, we would not have been able to transport the thousands of patients who required urgent access to specialty medical centres around Ontario.

For more information, contact:

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