

Recognize RCMP Public Safety Communicators Now



The Backbone of Emergency Response

RCMP Public Safety Communicators, including Telecommunications Operators and Intercept Monitor Analysts, serve as the critical first point of contact in emergencies across Canada. They are responsible for answering 911 calls, safeguarding police officers, monitoring border threats, and supporting national security operations. The decisions made by these professionals are instantaneous and can often mean the difference between life and death.

A Call for Fair Recognition

Despite their vital roles, RCMP Public Safety Communicators stand alone as the only female-dominated group performing public safety work excluded from Public Safety Occupation (PSO) status under the Public Service Superannuation Act. This exclusion persists, even after the Treasury Board's review last year, which continued to add or propose adding male-dominated occupations with similar or lesser risks.

We also know that carrying a gun or physically entering danger is not required for PSO recognition; Air Traffic Controllers are already recognized. Search and Rescue Controllers (Marine Controllers) soon will be if the current budget passes as is. They're being called "Search and Rescue Technicians" in this budget and related announcements, but they are not SAR Techs. This misrepresentation may be convenient for those trying to justify excluding us — but the reality is they work indoors, behind a desk, with nowhere near the same level of intensity or trauma exposure that we face every shift.

The Urgent Need for Change

This long-standing exclusion has detrimental effects on recruitment, retention, and the overall safety of Canadians. Evaluations by the RCMP, national standards, and independent research all affirm that the work of these communicators is essential to public and officer safety, border integrity, national security, and emergency response. However, issues such as severe understaffing, increased trauma exposure, and the complexity of calls are pushing the system to its limits.

An Immediate Call to Action

RCMP Public Safety Communicators are indispensable, with Canadians depending on them every minute of every day. The safety of the public, police officers, and Canada's border and national security operations relies heavily on their work. It is imperative that the government acknowledges their critical contributions by granting them PSO recognition.

This change is not just necessary; it is urgent. The government must act now to recognize RCMP Public Safety Communicators as a Public Safety Occupation. For more information, please contact: **info@cupe104.ca**.