House of Commons
Chambre des communes
Canada

House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance – Pre-budget Consultations 2013

This brief is submitted by:

(•) **an organization** **Organization name:** CHC Helicopters

or

( ) **an individual** **Name:** _____

Topic: Military and public safety and security

*Recommendation 1: Please provide a short summary of your recommendation.

CHC Helicopters recommends that the Federal Government consider streamlining Search and Rescue (SAR) delivery through the use of an Alternate Service Delivery (ASD) model. CHC's proven SAR ASD model would enhance economic growth in Canada by providing an essential public service with additional capabilities, at a lower cost than the current price of expanding SAR using internal military resources. It will address the gaps in the current SAR system, add new capacity in the Canadian Arctic, upgrade technology and augment overall deliver of SAR services.

Expected cost or savings: From the pull-down menus, please indicate the expected cost or savings of your recommendation to the federal government and the period of time to which the expected cost or savings is related.

$10 million-$99.9 million

3 years

Federal funding: Please provide a precise indication of how the federal government could fund your recommendation. For example, indicate what federal spending should be reallocated, what federal tax measure(s) should be introduced, eliminated or changed, etc.

CHC Helicopters proposes an Alternate Service Delivery (ASD) model to fill the gap that currently exists in Canada's search and rescue system. An ASD model will make the services more effective and efficient while delivering them at a lower cost to the government. This can be funded through the re- profiling of federal spending under the Department of National Defence and Public Safety.

This commercial option will not require any capital expenditures, placing the burden on the contractor to meet Canada's SAR standards.

Intended beneficiaries: Please indicate the groups of individuals, the sector(s) and/or the regions that would benefit by implementation of your recommendation.

CHC Helicopters' ASD model fills a gap in the current SAR system, improving SAR services for all Canadians. It would be of particular benefit to Canadians living along Canada's extensive coasts and living and working in the arctic. An augmentation of the current system will improve response time and increase survivability.

It would provide emergency services to the tourism, shipping, and offshore oil and gas industries. This is a proven model, CHC Helicopters has the expertise and can provide examples of how ASD has worked in other countries, such as Ireland and the United Kingdom.

General impacts: Depending on the nature of your recommendation, please indicate how the standard of living of Canadians would be improved, jobs would be created, people would be trained, etc.

Alternative Service Delivery of SAR would improve emergency services for all Canadians and facilitate expansion into the Arctic for oil and gas, fishing, shipping, and eco-tourism.

It will create employment opportunities for:
- Veterans and highly skilled ex-military personnel
- Individuals trained to deliver/provide Emergency Services
- Remote communities

Topic: Please select from the pull-down menu

Recommendation 2: Please provide a short summary of your recommendation.

Expected cost or savings: From the pull-down menus, please indicate the expected cost or savings of your recommendation to the federal government and the period of time to which the expected cost or savings is related.

Please select from the drop down menu

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Federal funding: Please provide a precise indication of how the federal government could fund your recommendation. For example, indicate what federal spending should be reallocated, what federal tax measure(s) should be introduced, eliminated or changed, etc.

Intended beneficiaries: Please indicate the groups of individuals, the sector(s) and/or the regions that would benefit by implementation of your recommendation.

General impacts: Depending on the nature of your recommendation, please indicate how the standard of living of Canadians would be improved, jobs would be created, people would be trained, etc.

Topic: Please select from the pull-down menu

Recommendation 3: Please provide a short summary of your recommendation.

Expected cost or savings: From the pull-down menus, please indicate the expected cost or savings of your recommendation to the federal government and the period of time to which the expected cost or savings is related.

Please select from the drop down menu

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Intended beneficiaries: Please indicate the groups of individuals, the sector(s) and/or the regions that would benefit by implementation of your recommendation.

General impacts: Depending on the nature of your recommendation, please indicate how the standard of living of Canadians would be improved, jobs would be created, people would be trained, etc.

Please use this page if you wish to provide more explanation about your recommendation(s).

CHC Helicopters proposes that the Federal Government consider utilizing an Alternate Service Delivery (ASD) model for Search and Rescue (SAR) services in order to address the evolving needs of SAR and the Canadian people.

Globally, SAR is currently being delivered to the Irish Coast Guard, United Kingdom Maritime and Coastguard Agency, and Royal Australian Air Force by a Canadian company using the ASD model. It has proven to be successful and efficient in serving the population and the governments of those countries. In fact, aircraft availability for these operations have a combined average operational readiness rate of over 97% due to the robust support structure of the commercial supply chain.

The ASD Search and Rescue model removes the requirement for the government to invest significant capital in new equipment, next generation SAR aircraft and SAR bases. All capital investment is provided by the SAR service provider. As a general rule, ASD Search and Rescue services are delivered with a more efficient manpower model offering significant savings to the government. Ireland's ASD helicopter SAR service, which consists of four helicopter bases and six medium to heavy lift aircraft has a total of 110 staff members. This team provides robust, 24-hour coverage for the country. Additionally, high predictability and a reliable cost model help the government to lower cost and deliver reliability in their budgets. The Key Performance Indicators in use today by the SAR ASD providers around the world drives higher standards for dispatch, aircraft reliability and performance than is found in current operations. This reduces the government's risk, thereby reducing its burden and associated cost.

Helicopter Search and Rescue is a unique service, performed in the most challenging circumstances. CHC Helicopters operates the most advanced helicopters on the market and supports its crews with advanced training programs. The ASD model will augment the current SAR system, providing technology that will improve response times and increase survivability.

Alternate Service Delivery is an interoperable system that will work compatibly within the current SAR structure. ASD is an operationally efficient and politically responsible solution to Canada's expanding SAR needs while satisfying the fiduciary responsibility to the public of expanded SAR coverage. The Government has a unique opportunity to provide increased operational coverage and faster response times, all the while providing a fiscally responsible solution to the Canadian public

*Please note that at least one recommendation must be provided