

SPEAKING POINTS FOR CHIEFS
Public Safety Priorities leading up to the
2010 Speech from the Throne (Tentatively March 3 or 4, 2010)

- In an unprecedented display of cooperation, the three major Chief's association (CACP, CAFC and EMSCC) are calling upon the federal government to work with first responders on the issues they have identified as top priorities, including providing resources and tools to address identified gaps in emergency management and communications interoperability.
- One of the specifics involves collaborative work on the priorities set by the CACP Emergency Management Committee which brings together police, fire, paramedic and emergency management services to foster integration at the municipal, regional, provincial/territorial, national and international levels. An identified priority action includes the ongoing development and delivery of an operationalized and integrated framework for emergency management in Canada.
- On February 22, 2010, the three major Chief's association in cooperation with Canadian industry through the Canadian Advanced Technology Alliance (CATAAlliance) sent a formal request to Industry Minister Tony Clement to meet to discuss a vision for a world-class public safety information and communications technologies (ICT) sector to help address public safety priorities.
- The three major Chief's association are looking to the Government of Canada to provide vision and leadership to accomplish communications interoperability between public safety agencies across Canada. This includes accelerating work on the action plans detailed in the Canadian Communications Interoperability Plan (CCIP) — a national priority identified by the Chiefs' associations and the Federal Government, created in cooperation with Public Safety Canada (PS) and developed by municipal, regional, provincial and national champions for enhanced communications interoperability.
- One of the CCIP recommendations involves the creation of a Public Safety Interoperability Centre (PSIC) that would promote Canadian innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing methodologies and tools to support and promote concept development, specification, integration, test and evaluation of communications interoperability capabilities to enhance the safety and security of Canadians.
- The member Chiefs from the three major Chiefs organization are encouraged to talk to their local members of parliament to ensure the issues identified by first responders are heard and acted upon. Where possible, municipal Chiefs are encouraged to deliver the message together in a coordinated fashion. It should be made clear that first responders are a common interest group, not a special interest group.