

Haz-Mat and CBRN Response Training Free to Your Municipality through the IAFF and the Government of Canada



In March 2007, the Government of Canada announced that it will fund implementation of the Hazardous Materials Response and Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Response training programs developed by the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF).

The IAFF program, called the IAFF Canadian Haz-Mat and CBRN Training Initiative, will enable the IAFF to train thousands of first responders to a recognized level, enabling them to respond safely and effectively to a haz-mat or CBRN incident whether it's the result of an act of terror, an industrial accident or a natural disaster. This in turn will result in a significant increase in the number of Canadians protected from the aftermath of Haz-Mat and CBRN incidents.

The IAFF program includes direct training and train-the-trainer components. The government's contribution will total \$2.5 million over five years and is designed to complement existing federal government training initiatives.

The funding from the Government of Canada means that the training can be offered free to Canadian municipalities. Training will be offered through local fire departments and will be available to a range of first responders, including fire fighters, police and paramedics.

The IAFF is now building a database of first responder agencies including fire departments, police forces and paramedic services that may be interested in haz-mat and CBRN training through the IAFF program. If you are interested, contact the IAFF at 613-567-8988 or e-mail jpaquin@iaff.org. If possible, indicate why this training is needed in your area.

The IAFF represents 291,000 professional fire fighters across North America, including 20,500 in Canada.

The Government of Canada is contributing \$2.5 million over five years to implement the IAFF Haz-mat and CBRN Response Training Programs. As a result, training for first responders including fire fighters, police and paramedics will be available free to municipalities!