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Dear Membership:

On behalf of the SEMSA Convention Committee, I am pleased to announce that planning for the 2009 Annual Convention and Trade Show is underway. This year's theme will focus on the 50th anniversary of SEMSA. Therefore, we have a lot of work ahead of us and that is why we are contacting the membership for their support and input!

Reflecting on 50 years of history and the vision SEMSA has set out over the years to "*strengthen and advance EMS in Saskatchewan by ensuring high-quality, accountable patient care*" is a tremendous milestone to celebrate and should not be taken lightly or overlooked! SEMSA's great success over the past 50 years has been built on experience and hard work, and the Convention Committee is determined to recognize as much as possible as to where the association has come from and where it is headed.

The Convention Committee NEEDS YOUR HELP!

In a two phase project, the first is to showcase the rich history of EMS in Saskatchewan - the **Committee is soliciting for historic sources** like newspaper clippings, pictures, stories, video, etc. to formulate a display medium at the Convention for all participants **and** the public to view. Rest assured to all services and individuals who submit media to help formulate this reality will have all materials returned to them.

Our intention is to start the membership thinking about what they might have in their archives and begin dusting it off because we would love to see it! Anything goes that is relevant to SEMSA or has defined your service or the industry over the past 50 years!

As time and resources permit, we will try to visit with services and gather various types of media and stories, but in the interim, as these media types are found, many can be submitted to the SEMSA office to be scanned, archived and returned back to those who submitted the material sooner than later. As a matter of fact, the earlier the better!

The Convention Committee is determined to work toward the success of this daunting endeavour but it cannot be stressed enough that the **success will be directly proportional to the support it receives from the membership.** With no support, we will not be successful in showcasing Saskatchewan's EMS history to not only the membership or participants of the convention, but the public as well.

The second phase of this project, which will take much more time, resources and commitment, will be to enhance and build on all of the information compiled and contract out a writer/researcher to work toward a **Saskatchewan EMS History Book.** We are currently looking for such an individual, but if anyone within the membership knows of an individual, or maybe within your own community capable and interested in this second phase of the project, we encourage you to let us know!

We look forward to your support and feedback as we start this exciting project and should you have any questions, concerns or comments please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Thank you in advance for your support as it is greatly appreciated and we look forward to unveiling a wonderful reflection of the past 50 years of EMS in Saskatchewan with your help!

Ross Reaburn
Chair, Convention Committee