

## 2.16 PEP AIR SERVICE

### 2.16.1 Policy

1. Individuals who own and operate private aircraft may be enrolled as volunteers in the PEP Air Service (PEP Air) to perform Search and Rescue (SAR) activities on behalf of PEP or the Canadian Armed Forces. Volunteers are also enrolled to act as navigators and spotters, flying with either the Canadian Armed Forces or PEP Air on air SAR tasks.

### 2.16.2 Conditions

1. All volunteers must register with PEP Air, which is an associate of the Civil Air Search and Rescue Association (CASARA).

### 2.16.3 Procedures

1. **Air Searches:** Air searches for downed aircraft are initiated by the Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC). All expenses are borne by the Canadian Armed Forces. They will task PEP Air for assistance through the Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) (1-800-663-3456).
2. **Land Searches:**
  - a. PEP Air will assist authorized searches and must be accessed through the ECC.
  - b. The ECC will pass the tasking to the Zone Commander who will assign an aircraft and crew.
  - c. The ECC will notify the PEP Regional Manager.
  - d. For authorized PEP Air flying activities in support of a ground search and rescue, PEP will reimburse expenses. Aircraft rates will be current PEP Air/CASARA/DND rates. Out of pocket expenses will be at authorized PEP rates.

**3. Operational Support:**

- a. PEP Air will assist the program with reconnaissance flights, ferrying or limited equipment and personnel movement.
- b. The ECC will pass the tasking to the Zone Commander who will assign an aircraft and crew.
- c. The ECC will notify the PEP Regional Manager.
- d. For authorized PEP Air operational support flying activities, PEP will reimburse expenses. Aircraft rates will be current PEP Air/CASARA/DND rates. Out-of-pocket expenses will be at authorized PEP rates.

**4. PEP Air has volunteers in the following support roles:**

- a. Safety Officer - both Provincial and zone
- b. Training Officer - both Provincial and zone
- c. Administration - both Provincial and zone
- d. Deputy Zone Commander
- e. Area Air Deputies

**5. Unavailability of PEP Aircraft:**

- a. In the event that PEP Air is tasked to fly in support of PEP operations and a PEP aircraft is not available the Zone Commander will contact and inform the appropriate PEP Regional Manager that a PEP aircraft is not available. The Zone Commander will also provide the hourly rate of the rental aircraft, type of aircraft and company name.
- b. Upon PEP Regional Manager authorization, the Zone Commander will rent the aircraft and fly the tasking.
- c. The PEP Regional Manager will notify the PEP ECC Duty Officer as follows:
  - (1) that aircraft rental authorization has been given; and

- (2) the name of the Zone Commander that received aircraft rental authorization.
- d. The Zone Commander will notify the PEP ECC Duty Officer as follows:
  - (1) name of the aircraft company;
  - (2) type of aircraft; and
  - (3) hourly rate of the rental aircraft.

#### **2.16.4 Training**

- 1. All air SAR training for PEP Air is paid by CASARA.
- 2. PEP pays for training only if pre-authorized by PEP for inter-disciplinary training or meetings.

**NOTE: Specific procedures are set out in PEP Air Services Manual.**