



Chilliwack Search & Rescue

Serving Our Community Since 1957

"So that others may live"

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Baby Munday Peak Search

Chilliwack, BC – Since the evening of Sunday, August 14, 2016, Chilliwack SAR has been engaged in a search near Baby Munday Peak for a missing hiker, Mr. Gord Sagoo.

The search was both extensive and comprehensive in its execution. The dozens and dozens of search assignments included: visual and sound sweeps by ground SAR teams, aerial searches with RCMP rotary aircraft (Air 1 and Air 8) and commercial helicopter providers (Valley Heli, Talon Heli, and Blackcomb Heli), technical mountain rescue (MR) teams, HETS (long-line) teams, mechanical (ATV/UTV) ground search teams, a 442 Squadron Cormorant helicopter from Comox, RECCO SAR technology used to detect electrical component signals, RCMP Police Dog Services, an RCMP operated UAV (drone), Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR), and reviews of video footage.

The following BCSAR teams joined Chilliwack SAR to assist with search assignments and/or management of the search operation: Kent Harrison SAR, Surrey SAR, Coquitlam SAR, North Shore Rescue, Lions Bay SAR and Whistler SAR. Emergency Management British Columbia (EMBC) staff were available throughout the search to help coordinate resources, arrange conference calls, and offer their expertise with large-scale searches. We are particularly appreciative of the support provided by Andrew Morrison (SAR Specialist, EMBC). Additionally, we are grateful to BC Corrections and the staff at the Ford Mountain Correctional Centre for allowing us to establish our Command Centre on their property.

The RCMP have jurisdiction in all missing person searches. The officers assigned to this file worked seamlessly with the Chilliwack SAR Managers. The professionalism displayed by the officers supported both the search operation, as well as the family and friends of Mr. Sagoo who were often present at the Command Centre staging area.

After consulting with SAR Managers from Kent Harrison SAR, Coquitlam SAR and North Shore Rescue, the management team from Chilliwack SAR reviewed all aspects of the search operation on Sunday, August 21, 2016. From that review, a report was presented to the Chilliwack RCMP recommending suspension of the search for Mr. Sagoo.

In closing, and on behalf of all of the SAR teams involved in the search, we offer our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Sagoo.

Chilliwack SAR will have no further comments on this search. Enquiries should be directed to the Chilliwack RCMP Media Liaison, Corporal Mike Rail.