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The Ambulance Paramedics and Emergency Dispatchers of British Columbia are proud to announce their support of PulsePoint Respond, a mobile smartphone app that alerts users of a possible sudden cardiac arrest near their location. The app intends to engage willing bystanders to start CPR and apply an automatic external defibrillator (AED) prior to paramedic's arrival, as the early application of these basic skills can increase a person's chance of survival by as much as 75%.

App users will receive alerts at the same time Paramedics are dispatched by BC Emergency Health Service Dispatchers for any suspected cardiac arrest emergency within 400 meters of their location. In addition to sending a text notification alert, the app also provides the location of nearby public access AED's to assist bystanders and users. The app will work across British Columbia, alerting users to incidents in public locations only.

"The Ambulance Paramedics and Emergency Dispatchers of BC are very excited to be a stakeholder in this innovative program," says Cameron Eby, Provincial President of the Ambulance Paramedics and Emergency Dispatcher of BC. "As leaders in prehospital care, and frontline medical professionals, paramedics and dispatchers work tirelessly to achieve the best possible outcomes for patients in BC. We are hopeful the use of this app will increase survival rates for out of hospital cardiac arrests in our province."

APBC and EDBC encourages all individuals trained in CPR to download PulsePoint Respond and provide early CPR and AED application during sudden cardiac arrest emergencies.