

100

YOUR AIR FORCE  
VOTRE FORCE AÉRIENNE

CANADIAN  
ARMED FORCES



FORCES ARMÉES  
CANADIENNES



National  
Defence

Défense  
nationale

Canada

# How does Canada Right-size and Right-skill Military Search and Rescue Response?

**NATO RAMs Technical Course  
March 2023**

**Maj Melissa Gear, Maj Richard Grainger  
Royal Canadian Air Force**

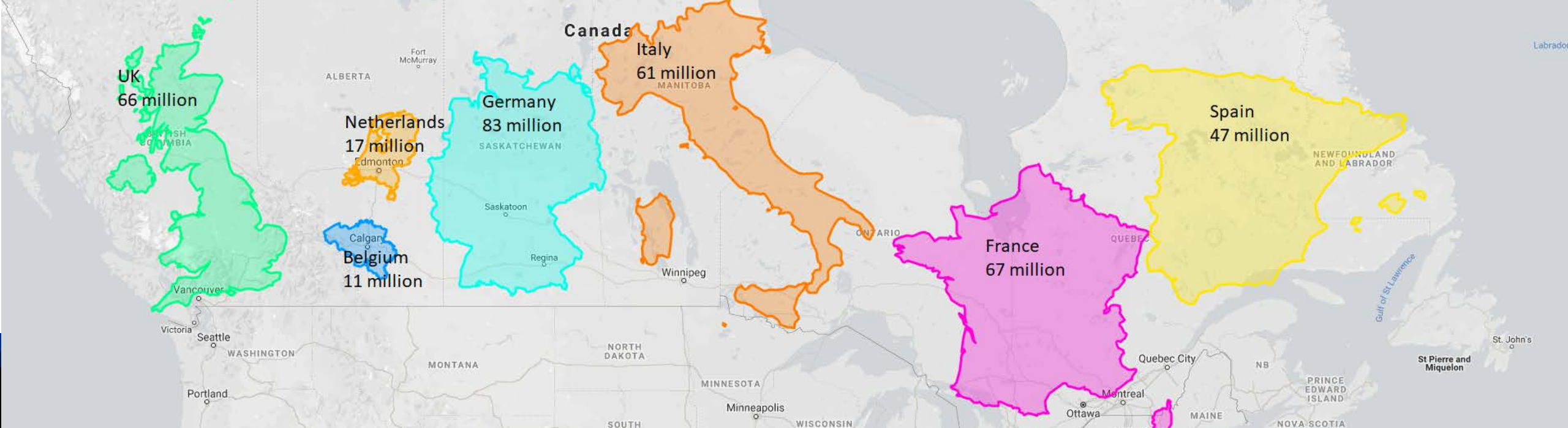
# Canadian Federal Search and Rescue



**Canadian Coast Guard and Auxiliary**

**CASARA**

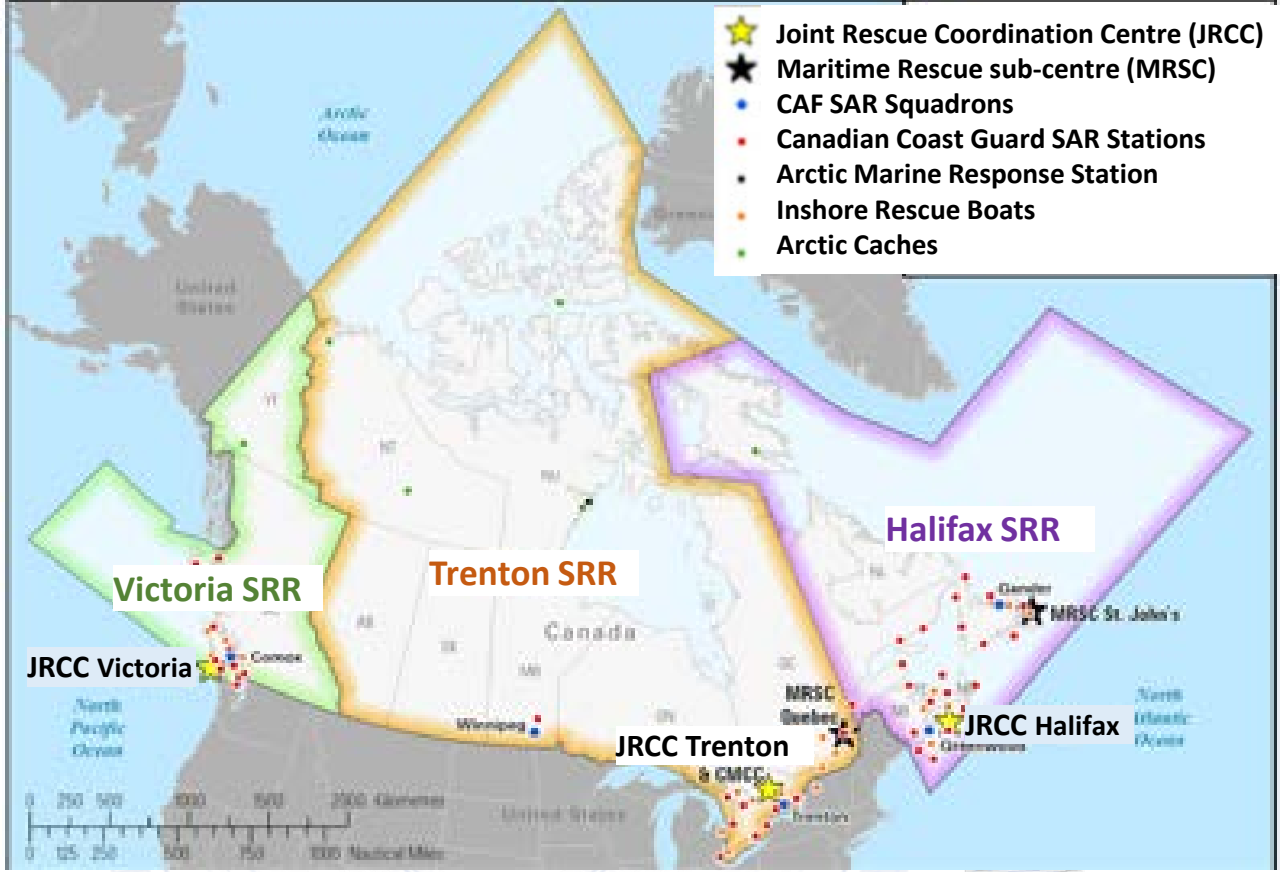
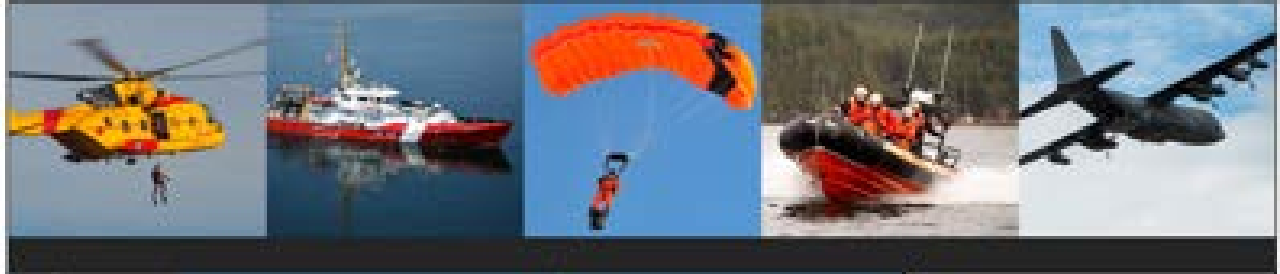
**Canadian Rangers**





# CAF SAR MANDATE

- Ensure effective operation of the co-ordinated aeronautical and maritime SAR system
- Co-ordinate, control and conduct aeronautical SAR Ops
- **Provide aeronautical SAR response services**
- Assist maritime and ground SAR incident



Canada's SAR Area of responsibility is 18,000,000 km<sup>2</sup> , with the world's longest coastline

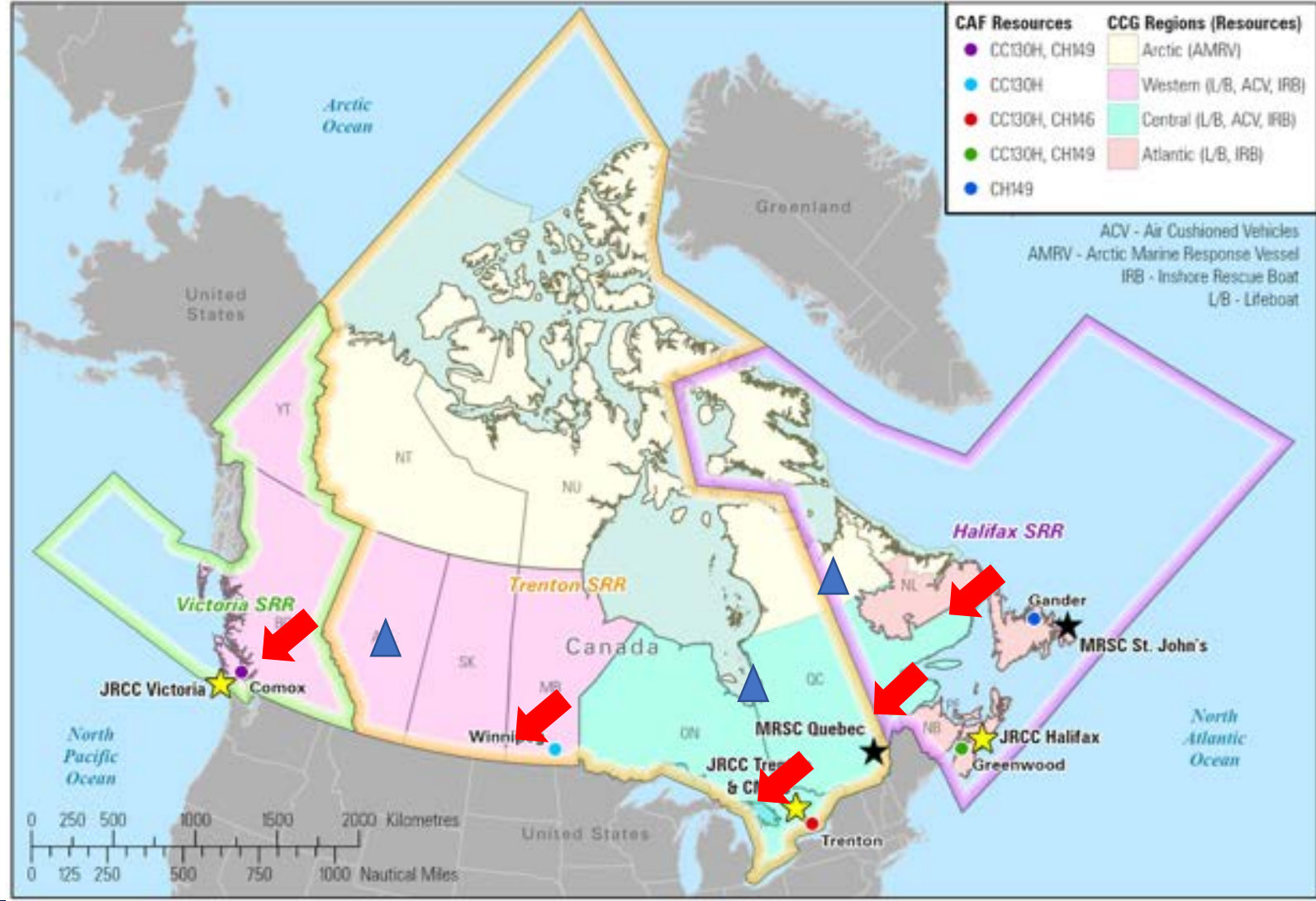
# CAF PRIMARY SAR ASSETS



## CAF RESOURCES

### Primary

- 11 CH149 Cormorant (+2\*)
- 10 CC130H Hercules (+2\*)
- 4 CH146 Griffon (+1\*)
- SAR Techs - paramedics conducting dive, mountain & parachute rescue ops





# SAR Annual Taskings

~9000 calls

- >50% maritime

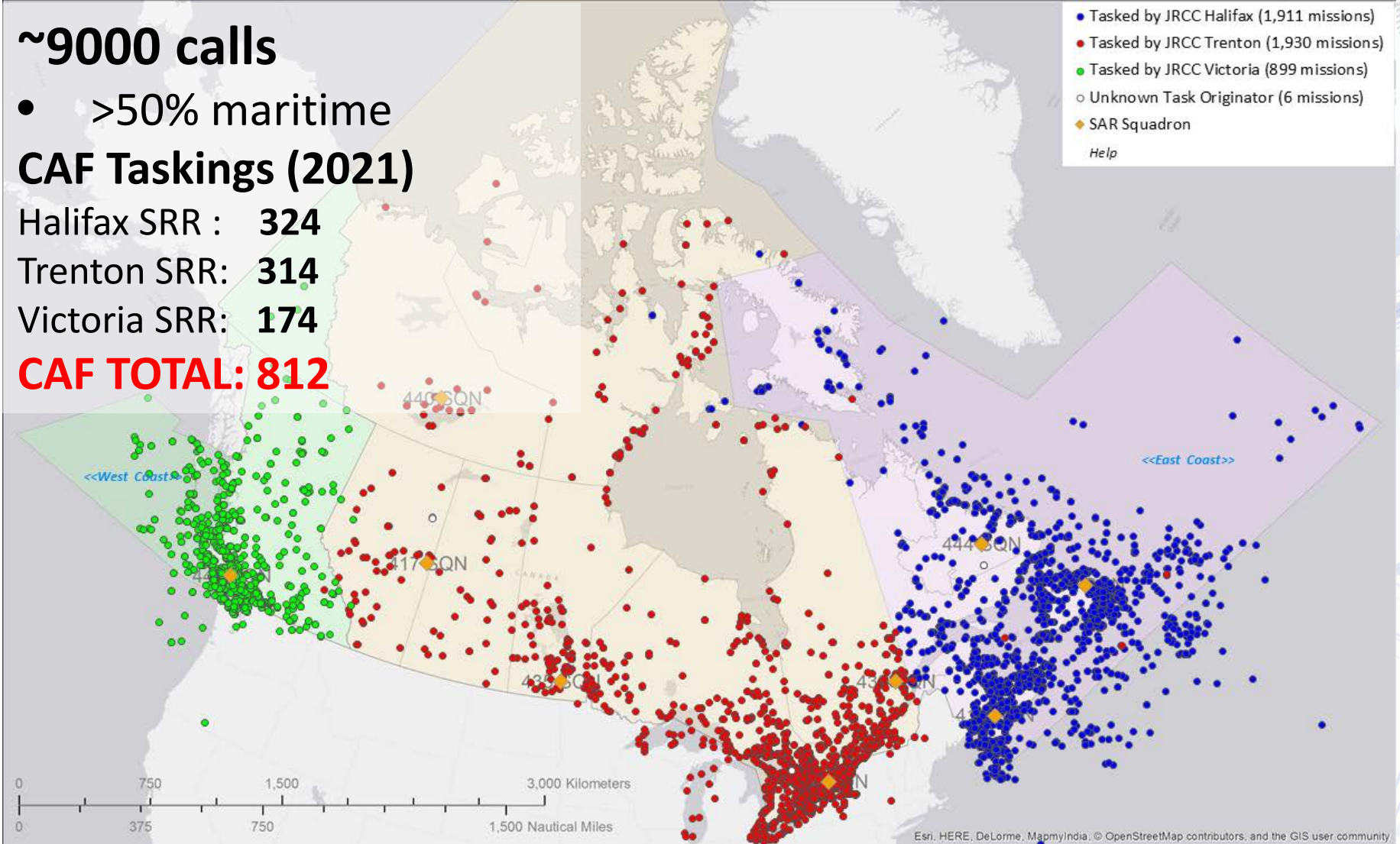
## CAF Taskings (2021)

Halifax SRR : 324

Trenton SRR: 314

Victoria SRR: 174

**CAF TOTAL: 812**







**MEDICAL**



**MOUNTAIN**



## SAR Skills

- Medical
- Para
- Mountain
- Dive
- Hoist
- Austere/  
survival



**PARA**



**SEA**



# Combat Support Squadron (CSS)



- **Medical**
- **Hoist insertion/ extraction**
- **Over-water rescue**
- **Austere/ survival**



## Challenges

- Huge area of responsibility
- Access to remote/ northern
- Medical proficiency and currency of SAR Tech/ CSS

## Questions

- What capabilities are required to perform SAR?
- Selection of personnel?
- What medical skills/ competency are required?



# Occupational Medical Challenges

- Selection
- Medical standards for SAR continued employment



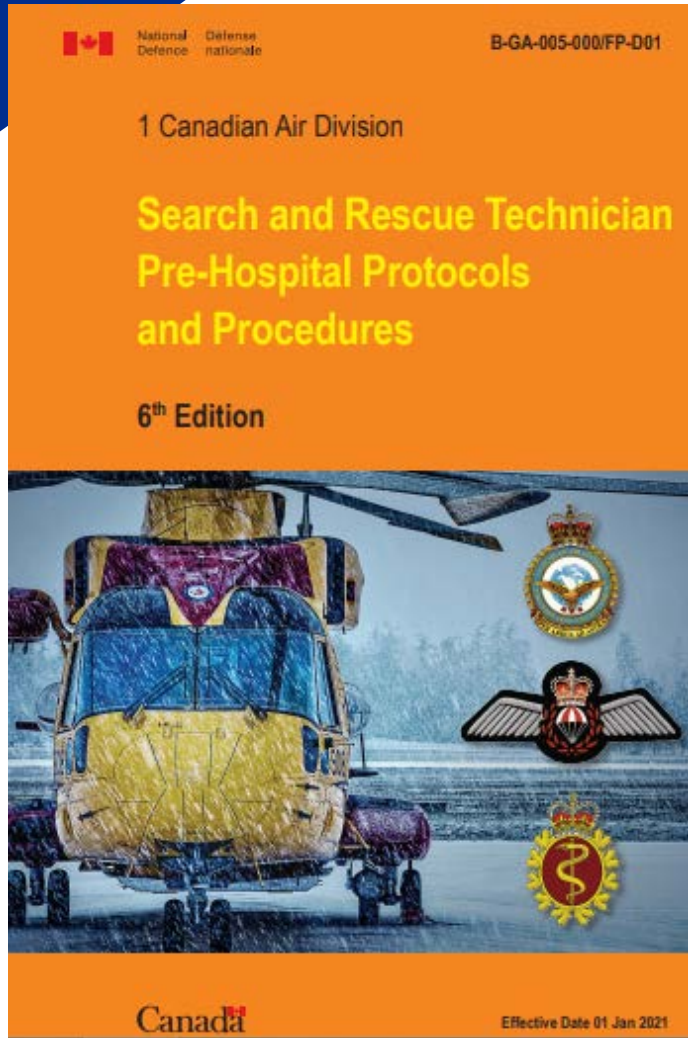


# Medical Challenges

- Determination of required medical skills
- Initial medical training
- Certification/ assessment



# Medical Challenges – Scope



## SAR TECH PLEDGE

**Without regard for my personal comfort  
or self-advancement  
to the best of my ability  
and to the limitations of my physical and psychological  
endurance,  
I solemnly pledge to make every effort to return to safety,  
those victims of disaster entrusted to my care  
by the assignment of the mission to which I have consented.  
These things I shall do:  
“That others may live”.**



# Medical Challenges

- Maintenance of clinical skills
- Recertification
- On-going training



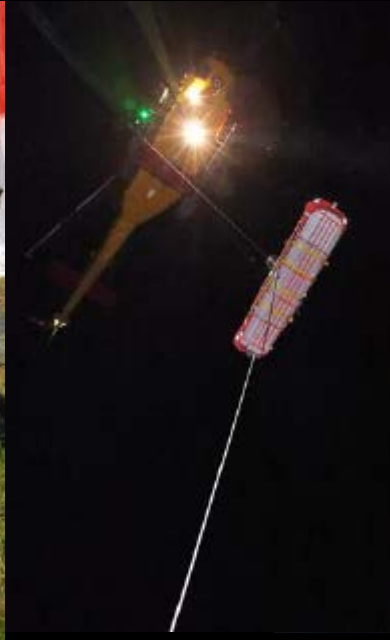
# CHALLENGING GEOGRAPHY







# CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT







**QUESTIONS?**

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