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keeps more than three million people in Ontario safe. Its members include a diverse set of emergency response stakeholders, such as the Halton and Peel police services, the Greater Toronto Airport Authority, transit agencies, utilities, university researchers, national and provincial public safety associations, and private sector members such as telecommunication companies and technology innovators.

Earlier this summer, the PIA won top honours for Best Collaborative Work at the prestigious International Critical **Communications Awards** in Vienna in recognition of its cutting-edge advocacy and work in establishing a Canadian governance framework, and for its tech innovation in a new model that helps build First Mile wireless access to 911 services across Canada's rural and urban digital divide.

The Swedish delegation, including representatives from the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency and the Swedish Police Authority, learned about the PIA's governance and operating models, developed based on real-world use and experience in running Canada's largest critical communication network, and guidance on collaboration in order to deliver a Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN) nationwide.

"These collaborative engagements with critical communication authorities are essential to create emergency services networks that our citizens rely on. Sharing knowledge and utilizing best practices from our international peers is valuable in achieving this goal," said Maria Tilander, international co-operation officer from MSB,

Rakel. Canada's PSBN system

will be the critical technology framework for 911 operations over the next 25 years, said Halton police Chief Stephen Tanner.

"The Halton police developed and deployed model ensures that first responders have access to 'always-on' critical data in the moments that matter — across natural disasters and during dayto-day 911 calls. This mission critical technology will help save countless lives over the years ahead," said Tanner.

With Peel police's partnership in co-founding the PIA, the model has been further developed into a national framework, which can also be a key telecom policy tool to help promote 911 wireless access and response across Canada, no matter the location or existing infrastructure, said Tanner.

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