



PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER'S DIRECTIVE

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01/95

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Supersedes

Subject

BRIGADE CHAPLAINS

Direction

Clergy may be enrolled as members to provide spiritual and supportive assistance to the Brigade. They may be appointed to Provincial, Area or Corps headquarters or to Divisions. Brigade Chaplains operate in accordance with the regulations and guidelines of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, however many of their activities may require absolute confidentiality, without obligation to report to anyone in the Brigade.

Brigade Chaplains must be ordained by a recognized religious body (meaning a religious body whose members may be licensed to solemnize marriages in the Province of Ontario), and should have at least five years experience in pastoral ministry.

Prior to enrolment, agreement in writing from the appropriate religious body and the approval of the Provincial Commissioner must be obtained.

They will be entitled to wear the Brigade uniform and will wear a Chaplains Cross on the right breast of the tunic centered over the name tag.

For purposes of administration, Chaplain positions will be recognized by the following appointment codes, abbreviations and designators:

Divisional Chaplain

Appt. Code	Abbrev.	Designator
073	DO	SS

(continued on reverse)

Authority

Area Chaplain

Appt. Code	Abbrev.	Designator
048	ASO	C

Provincial Chaplain

Appt. Code	Abbrev.	Designator
033	PSO	CS

Roles and Responsibilities

The primary roles and responsibilities of a Brigade Chaplain may be divided into four sections:

- i. To be a "spiritual leader" when requested
 - to provide moral, ethical, religious support to members and their families;
 - celebrate when possible, the religious activities in the lives of members and their families;
 - provide religious counselling;
 - participate in the funeral rites of past and present members and their families.
- ii. To be a "liaison" when requested
 - to offer spiritual and supportive assistance to those served by the Brigade, and to those who assist the Brigade;
 - assist members, families and those we assist with referrals to other persons or agencies as applicable.
- iii. To provide "support" when requested
 - offer comfort to any member or their family who asks for assistance;
 - visit and assist the member or their family in time of need eg/ following a critical incident, emergency, death or other crisis;
 - provide supportive assistance at critical incident debriefings.
- iv. To provide "counselling" when requested
 - to provide counselling and assistance in times of stress or crisis;
 - assist with providing referrals to other persons, or agencies.

The Brigade Chaplain may also provide other assistance as requested. Above all, the Brigade Chaplain must ensure absolute confidentiality.

