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# PASTORAL CARE PROGRAM



Canada



*Jointly sponsored by the Departments of National Defence and Veterans Affairs Canada, this Program is designed specifically for retired members of the Canadian Forces and their immediate families.*

## Purpose:

Similar to the pastoral care which Military Chaplains routinely provide to those who are serving in uniform, this Program enables the provision of Clergy (often retired CF Chaplains) to our retired CF personnel and their immediate family, when a pastoral need arises. *It is not intended to replace the ministry of civilian Parish Clergy when the former member is a regular member of a civilian Parish.* When, however, a member is without the immediate ministry of a member of the clergy, this program may be able to provide assistance. While it is primarily designed for situations when former members are dealing with "end of life" issues, i.e. dying, death, funerals, bereavement, etc. it is not necessarily restricted to this area alone. Usually, when pastoral emergencies arise, time is of the essence. Thus, an important feature of the program is its' capacity to provide a swift response with a very high quality of Pastoral Care.

## The Clergy:

The Clergy who are provided under the provisions of this program are carefully selected and specifically mandated for this ministry. Many of them are retired CF Padres, or Royal Canadian Legion Chaplains, who have personal familiarity with the military way of life. As well, they are quite familiar with the unique demands of retired life. They are paid a standard honorium for their services and are also reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred.

## Eligibility:

All former members of the Canadian Forces, both Regular and Reserve Force, who have been honourably discharged, and any CF veteran of the World Wars and Korea, including Merchant Seamen, are eligible. An immediate family member may also be considered eligible to apply, and depending upon individual circumstances, may be provided with pastoral care under the provisions of the program.

While it will be necessary to complete and forward a standard application form, if the circumstances are deemed to be of an emergency nature, authority to provide care may be provided "in advance of the paperwork." In all cases, the Manager of the Program will determine the appropriate action(s) to be taken.

## Registration:

All inquiries related to this program should be directed to the Manager of the Pastoral Outreach Program, DCSA 6, toll-free in Canada at 1-800-883-6094 or locally and outside Canada, (613) 944-4047. Applications are available on our web site or will be provided by mail. Once the applicants data has been received, The Director of Casualty Support and Administration (DCSA) will then verify the eligibility of each applicant. Once approval has been given, the "provision of care" process will be initiated as quickly as possible, in order to alleviate further stress for individuals and families.

*If you believe that you have an emergency requirement for Pastoral Care, and time is of the essence, call directly to the Manager of The Pastoral Outreach Program at (613) 944-4047 or 1-800-883-6094. Fax (613) 996-1493.*

### Mailing Address:

Director Casualty Support Administration 6  
National Defence Headquarters  
101 Col By Drive  
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For additional information, visit us at our web site at: [www.forces.gc.ca/centre](http://www.forces.gc.ca/centre)