



For Immediate Release – October 19, 2023

166 Ontario paramedics receive exemplary service medals

(Kingston) – On Thursday, September 28, the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs (OAPC) awarded 166 paramedics the Governor General’s Emergency Medical Services Exemplary Service Medal. These paramedics come from 38 of the province's 56 paramedic services.

“On behalf of Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, the Governor General of Canada, the OAPC is honoured to present the medal to so many dedicated paramedics in Ontario,” said OAPC President, Chief Michael Sanderson. “Paramedics in Ontario have demonstrated every day the caring and compassion they have for their communities. It’s an honour to recognize these exemplary members.”

The award is presented to paramedics who have served for at least twenty years providing the highest quality of care. To qualify, at least ten of the years of service must have been on duty in the field – whether on the street or in the air - involving potential risk to the individual. Nominees can be currently active, retired or deceased.

The Emergency Medical Services Exemplary Service Medal was created in 1994 by the late Governor General Romeo LeBlanc, as a component of the Canadian Honours System. Since the award’s inception, there have been approximately 3338 Ontario recipients of the medal and bars.

Please see the attached backgrounder for the full list of this year’s recipients.

-30-

For further information, please contact:

Paul J. Charbonneau, Executive Director

Email: x.d@oapc.ca Telephone: (613) 305-0092

About the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs

The Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs is the voice of paramedic leadership in Ontario. Our organization promotes a culture of change surrounding paramedicine that is guided by evidence-based decision-making and seeks best practices in the provision of paramedic services. The Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs represents the Paramedic Services leadership in 52 Designated Delivery Agents (DDA), consisting of regional, county and municipal governments, and District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSABs) across Ontario. Our members also include Ornge and the six First Nations Emergency Medical Services. Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs members oversee the work of 11,000 primary, advanced and critical care paramedics as well as 830 ambulances and 300 emergency response vehicles across the Province.



BACKGROUND

The 2023 Emergency Medical Services Exemplary Service Medal recipients are:

Brant

Michelle Faria

Shirley Bell

Timothy Nykamp

Central East Prehospital Care Program (CEPCP)

Amanda Firth

Centre for Paramedic Education & Research (CPEP)

Stephanie Coletta

Cochrane

Josee Lambert-Charest

Natalie Robitaille

Cornwall

Bradley Hunt

Lori Lefebvre

Michel Langlois

Sophie Tasse

Trina Boisvenue

Dufferin

Dave Tyler

Brian MacIntyre

Gary Staples

Heather McNab

John Posavac

Mike Chambers

Shawn O'Donnell

Stacey Becker

Durham

Christopher Hornell

Tina Brown

Blaine Padgett
Laura Jones
Noel Conner
Stephanie Conner
Michael VanMil

Elgin

David Wilson

Essex Windsor

Daniel Metcalfe
Dawn Arsenault
Sarah Stromme
Stephanie Simetic

Frontenac

David Doran
Ingmar Freitag
Jason Kervin
Jeremie Hurtubise

Guelph-Wellington

Anita Felker
Carrie Gordon
Grace Perry

Halton

Rory Jackson
Sarah Francom
Cassandra Bell

Hamilton

Alison Reid
Bradley McMurray
David Thompson
Linda Minas-Connolly
Steven Kawamura

Hastings-Quinte

Bill Hughes
Darcy Osborne
David Valdas

Kawartha Lakes

Brent Dixon
Darcy Caffin
Debbie Norris
John Potts

Michelle Bell
Sara Johnston
Trent Watson

Lambton

Daniel McBean
Christopher Stolte
Gordon Marsh
Grant Purdy
Jason Cudney
Kymberley McLean

Leeds-Grenville

Cassie Cross
Graeme Marchand

Manitoulin-Sudbury

Monic Rochon-Shaw

Middlesex-London

Mark Weiss
Rick West
Robert McCoy
Tracey Gosling
William Seeley
Jeffrey Weir
Simon Martin
Steven Moerman

Niagara EMS

Darren Williamson
Derek Langlois
Melissa Lacroix
Melvin Gimblett

Nipissing Paramedic Service

Eric Bolduc
Tanya Bouchard

Norfolk

Jason Foerster
Michael Oxley
Ronald Demaiter

Ornge

Christopher Anderson
Christopher Vickery
Darin Veilleux

Marc Bechard
Michael Curry

Ottawa

Daniel Robin
Jonathan Clark
Mathieu Roy

Peel

Alison Crossby
Brent Gorzynski
Danielle Gingrich
Michael Donnelly

Perth

Andrew Medhurst
Bradley Everett
Chris Keyser
Ian Brown
Michael Crawley
Randy Bonsma
Trisha Heinbuch

Peterborough

Allan Martin
Daniel Farrow

Rainy River

Christopher Wielinga
Donna O'Sullivan

Rama

Celine Fortin
Harri Hamalainen

Renfrew

Mathieu Grenier

Sault Ste. Marie

Catherine Marshall
Kevin Mitchell
Sherri Rathwell

Simcoe

Cory Schepers
Douglas Whiffen
Frank Potter
Laura Gillies

Mark Hildebrandt
Owen Van Dyke
Patrick Hervieux
Sarah Mills
Shannon Bacci

Six Nations

Donald Stacey
Eric Sault
Michael Winnie
Ronald Bomberry
Terry White

Sudbury

Annik Thibault-Simard
Gaetan Lagrandeur
Lyndsay Fearnley-Ungar
Shawn-Eric Poulin

Superior North

Darquise Robinson
James Frizado
Nicholas Enders

Toronto

Timothy Dickinson
Allan Jodion
Arnon Goldenberg
Christopher Dias
Daniel Cortinovic
Ed Hoy
Gabriel Ku
James Witteveen
Kaleigh O'Brien
Lisa Young
Lori Preston
Mark Harpur
Matthew Tersigni
Peter Aquilizan
Robert Gillman
Robina MacArthur

Waterloo

Alex Manson
Alison Gough
Linda Malcolm
Michael Martin
Steven Wood

Wendy Kukuric

York

Aimee Prentice

Alex Gawlik

Andre Desy

Andrea Cann

Hayley Sangster

Jeremy Watts

Kevin Johnston

Lisa McPhail

Matthew Meagher

Paula Drinkle

Sergio Calderon