

DEAN OF MILITARY CHAPLAINS

Position Title -

Dean of Military Chaplains for Lutheran Church–Canada

Purpose -

The Dean of Military Chaplains (DMC) serves as the ecclesiastical supervisor of Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) Military Chaplains serving in Her Majesty’s Canadian Armed Forces (CAF). He will have ecclesiastical oversight of all Regular Force Chaplains, and also of Reserve Chaplains in matters pertaining to military chaplaincy only.

Responsibility -

The Dean of Military Chaplains is the spiritual leader of the LCC Military Chaplains serving in the Canadian Armed Forces. In his responsibility for Ecclesiastical Oversight, Building Community, and Care for Military Chaplains, he will nurture brotherly support and dialogue to encourage unity of doctrine, practice, mission and ministry among LCC Military Chaplains.

The Dean of Military Chaplains will emphasize God’s greatest gifts to mankind (1) the saving work of His Son as expressed in the Gospel and (2) God’s constant provision. The Dean of Military Chaplains will, therefore, support Military Chaplains in proclaiming the Gospel, administering the sacraments, and providing for the spiritual care of military members and their families. To do this, he will show dedication in visiting with Military Chaplains on a regular basis.

The Dean of Military Chaplains is responsible for coaching, mentoring, and advising Military Chaplains in their Divine Calls to provide pastoral care, spiritual leadership, and religious support for the military community. The Dean of Military Chaplains will establish relationships with LCC Military Chaplains, and will conduct visits with LCC chaplains annually, if possible, and any concerns shall be brought to the Synodical President of LCC. Chaplains will thereby be assured of the ongoing support and prayers of LCC.

Accountability -

The Dean of Military Chaplains will be nominated by the Synodical President and elected by the President’s Ministry Council (PMC) who are in position to represent the various aspects of LCC’s common vision, and he will receive his Divine Call from the congregations of LCC through the Board of Directors. The President will seek the advice of serving LCC Military Chaplains in nominating a candidate for the position. The Dean of Military Chaplains is accountable to the Synodical President. He will report regularly to the Synodical President on the spiritual health of Military Chaplains and identify and discuss issues of ministry effectiveness. His reports to the Synodical President will include assessments of potential opportunity and challenge within Military Chaplaincy.

The Dean of Military Chaplains will submit expense reports to the Synodical President for his approval and processing by Synod staff, in accordance with LCC Administrative Policies. These reports will detail

expenses incurred in his capacity as Dean of Military Chaplains (e.g. travel, rentals, business and office expenses).

Consults -

The Dean of Military Chaplains will prepare reports for meetings of the President's Ministry Council and work collaboratively with the President, LCC Military Chaplains and the Lutheran Council In Canada (LCIC) representative on the Interfaith Committee on Canadian Military Chaplaincy (ICCMC).

The Dean of Military Chaplains will encourage Military Chaplains in preaching and teaching the Word, identify needs and opportunities within the CAF for innovative and creative ministry ways to engage the military community, advise and confer with the Canadian (Domestic) Mission Executive.

The LCC Military Deanery is the primary means by which Dean of Military Chaplains delivers the services of LCC to Military Chaplains in the CAF. The Military Deanery is composed of all serving LCC CAF Chaplains. The Dean of Military Chaplains calls, if possible, for at least one meeting of the Military Deanery per year. Decisions of the Military Deanery shall be by consensus. The Dean of Military Chaplains convenes meetings of the Military Deanery and may chair the meetings or delegate the responsibilities of chair to others.

Informs -

The expectations of the Dean of Military Chaplains include visiting LCC Military Chaplains serving in the CAF. He will lead the Military Deanery, ensuring news and information is regularly conveyed to the Military Chaplains, and that news and information about military chaplain ministry is communicated back to LCC through her media outlets (Canadian Lutheran etc.). The Dean of Military Chaplains serves as military liaison between the LCC Synodical President, LCC Military Chaplains and the LCIC representative on ICCMC.

Location -

The Dean of Military Chaplains will be supported administratively by staff at LCC in Winnipeg. This will be accomplished, using the technologies available (computer equipment and networks, cellular/smart telephone, etc.).

Qualifications -

The Dean of Military Chaplains is an Individual Member (a rostered pastor) in good standing of Lutheran Church–Canada and is elected by the President's Ministry Council upon the recommendation of the Synodical President and called by the congregations of Lutheran Church–Canada through the Board of Directors. The Dean of Military Chaplains demonstrates spiritual and pastoral leadership. The Dean of Military Chaplains is well organized. It is preferred that the Dean of Military Chaplains have previous military service.