



St. John Ambulance Saint-Jean

Tsunami Relief Efforts

January 31st, 2005 - Update and Special Appeal for St. John Ambulance Tsunami Relief Efforts

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

SJA Canada Volunteer Tsunami Relief Team

THANK YOU AIR CANADA!!! – Many thanks to Air Canada for assisting our volunteers by supporting a portion of their air travel.

Our team SJA Canada volunteer Registered Nurses will be starting their relief work in Colombo for five weeks starting on their arrival, Monday 31st of January. The team leader Lannon DeBest will be accompanied by Deborah Neidig and Kristin Mendoza. The Team's assignments will include visiting camps for displaced persons; conducting health camps jointly with SJA Sri Lanka volunteers; assessing SJA capacity and performance; identifying immediate and long term needs for SJA Sri Lanka; training SJA volunteers and the public in first aid and health care subjects and training SJA volunteers and staff in disaster management.

Some of the assignment may change as emerging needs are identified. Coordination of activities will be delivered through the assistance of the Mr. Bill Alexander, the National Emergency Response Services Coordinator in Canada and Mr. De Best, the team leader, through daily communications reports. The Team Leader will remain responsible to SJA Canada while being responsive to the needs of SJA Sri Lanka.



Pictured from left to right: Debbie Neidig (SJA Volunteer), Ted Steele (Provincial Commissioner), Kristin Mendoza (SJA Volunteer), and Lannon de Best (SJA Volunteer Team Leader).

PROVISION OF SUPPLIES

The fourth shipment of supplies, specifically, stretchers (50); fanny pack first aid kits (1000); Survival Kits (100); surgical masks (2000) and latex gloves (4000) is scheduled for shipment next week. There was a slight delay due to the sourcing of stretchers within the local region.

A donation was received from the Marchese Healthcare Group from Hamilton, Ontario in the amount of \$10,000 CDN. The relief items sent included pharmaceuticals and various medical supplies. Many thanks to Phil Griffiths, Sam and Ken at AllConnect, the Burlington Branch (Leslie and Gary Jack, and Leslie Brannagan and her husband Dan) and Airline Services Inc. for their assistance in ensuring the delivery of these needed supplies. There is nothing like teamwork at St. John Ambulance!! This fifth shipment was sent Thursday, January 27th, 2005 and is due to arrive no later than Saturday, January 29th, 2005.

Total expenditures to date are: approx. \$ 30,000 CDN.

UPDATE

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FUNDING TO ST. JOHN AMBULANCE SRI LANKA

The funding commitments communicated to National Office to date are as follows:

	Donations
B.C./Yukon	\$25,000
Ontario	\$25,000
Alberta	\$25,000
Nfld	\$15,000
Federal District	\$5,000
NS/PEI	\$5,290
NB	Individual Donations
Manitoba	Pending
Sask	Pending
NWT	Pending
Quebec	Pending
Sub total	\$100,290
General Donations	\$20,495
Grand Total	\$120,785

ORDER OF ST. JOHN INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

Based on the latest information released by the International Secretariat on January 31st, the Order of St. John has raised more than \$366,726 USD and, \$294,760 USD in supplies to date for a total of \$661,486 USD.

PUBLIC AND MEDIA RELATIONS

Sri Lankan High Commission - St. John Ambulance Canada has secured a television interview with the Lord Eric Barry and the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka for Canada, Mrs. Geetha de Silva, on CTV CJOH with Host, Leigh Chapple and a separate interview with the New RO on February 1st, 2005. We hope to have a copy available online following the interview for all SJA members to view the feedback we are receiving.

Pictures and video will be available on the website and shared with SJA Sri Lanka and the International Secretariat. Copies will be supplied on request.

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Prime Minister's Visit to Sri Lanka – SJA Sri Lanka issued a press release for the arrival of The Prime Minister to Sri Lanka on January 17th, 2005 (available on the website).

Website Listings – SJA press release was picked up on various national websites including such as www.bigmedicine.ca; www.torontonews.net; and the Sri Lankan Community www.srilankanews.net among others.