



St. John Ambulance Saint-Jean

Council for Ontario

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To: All Ontario Council Branches, Community Service Units, Instructors and Volunteers

From: Carl Mason, Chair St. John Council for Ontario

Re: **Tsunami Appeal**

In a Priory teleconference on December 30, 2004 participants from St. John across Canada discussed strategies for the Priory of Canada to assist our sister associations in South East Asia who are responding to the affects of the Tsunami Disaster. In addition it addressed communications from the Lord Prior with a very specific request from the St. John Association in Sri Lanka which dealt with ways St. John could provide aid to those effected by this unprecedented disaster.

The Sri Lanka St. John Association have 50,000 volunteers who are providing relief efforts to the over one million people who are now homeless and the thousands of casualties resulting from the disaster. They are specifically requesting first aid materials, drugs, food and cash donations to assist with their relief efforts.

It is felt that the Priory of Canada can best contribute by providing First Aid supplies purchased through cash donations received. The National Office has been in touch with our two overseas suppliers and has received confirmation that they have the First Aid supplies available as per the Sri Lanka specific requirements and these supplies will be made available to St. John Sri Lanka this week. Priory has asked for and received initial contributions from Provincial Councils including \$25,000 from Ontario. This commitment will provide for an initial shipment this week of much needed First Aid supplies.

In addition Provincial Councils were asked to distribute information to their branches, instructors, volunteers and members indicating that should they wish to make a donation, they can do so. I ask that you forward this information to all those interested. In Ontario contributions to this National program can be sent to our Provincial Office, at the address above, directed to the CEO marked *Tsunami Appeal*. Donation receipts will be provided for donations made out to **St. John Ambulance Tsunami Appeal** of \$10 or more and these funds will be collected then forwarded to National for use in providing these much needed First Aid supplies to Sri Lanka.

On the basis of our history, it is imperative that we assist in humanitarian endeavors; particularly those affecting our sister associations in South East Asia as a result of this recent natural catastrophe. Your support is needed and will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Carl Mason, Chair