

Letters may be written to members of parliament (MPs) at their constituency office or their Ottawa address. Members can find their MP's constituency office address by entering their postal code on the Parliament of Canada's website under the "Find Members of Parliament" [page](#). Letters may be sent by email or regular mail (no postage is required).

Guidelines for writing letters to government can be found in the (#615) *National Manual of Policy and Procedures* (2025), Appendix 12 and in the (#173) Personal Letter Writing Guide. Below is a sample of a letter addressing National Resolution [2025.03](#) Strengthen Support for Chaplains to Provide Faith-Based Care to Members and Families of the Canadian Armed Forces:

Dear Mr./Ms. [insert last name]

I am writing to you as your constituent and as one of the 55,000 members of The Catholic Women's League of Canada.

It has come to my attention that a report dated April 2022 recommended that the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) not consider applications to the Royal Canadian Chaplain Service from persons "affiliated with religious groups whose values are not aligned with those of the Defence Team." As an example, the report cited a religious group that does not ordain women as priests. This recommendation discriminates against Catholics and is unacceptable.

There are several excellent passages members may wish to quote from Dr. Andrew Bennett, Director of Faith Community Engagement with CARDUS, in his presentation to the Parliamentary Committee on Military Chaplaincy in June 2023:

"In providing essential spiritual care to CAF personnel and veterans, chaplains must be able to provide that care and counsel fully informed by the teachings and beliefs of their particular faith. They must be fully able to exercise their freedom of religion in doing so and thus minister to others in a way that is integrated and authentic, bearing faithful witness to what they confess to be true. This freedom must not be unduly hindered such as through a mandated requirement to adhere to a prevailing secular creed or to conform to a political ideology of any stripe. These religious truths are timeless."

—or—

"The essential work of armed forces' chaplains of all religious and philosophical traditions must be protected and encouraged, all while upholding freedom of religion and conscience for chaplains and those whom they serve."

—and—

I also ask that you urge that the *Chaplain General Direction on Chaplain's Spiritual Reflection in Public Settings* (October 11, 2023) be retracted. It is now stipulated that chaplains not recite traditional prayers at mandatory public military events but rather deliver inclusive spiritual reflections. Words such as "God" or "Heavenly Father" are not permitted. In a country where, in the national anthem, we ask that "God keep our land

glorious and free,” it does not make sense that Canadians are precluded from invoking Him at Remembrance Day services.

Please review the League’s National Resolution [2025.03](#) Strengthen Support for Chaplains to Provide Faith-Based Care to Members and Families of the Canadian Armed Forces and its Action Plan for additional suggestions.