



# DEFENDERS OF JUSTICE

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## ORDINATION AND COMMISSIONING



**CFOT**

*The Salvation Army College for Officer Training  
Canada and Bermuda Territory*





Founder:  
William Booth



Office of  
The General

International Headquarters  
London EC4V 4EH

**The General's Commissioning Message  
to the  
Defenders of Justice Session**

*"...defending truth, humility, and justice. Go forth to perform awe-inspiring deeds!" (Ps 45:4b NLT)*

Dear Cadets,

Commissioner Bronwyn and I consider it a privilege to greet you on this important and spiritually significant occasion of your ordination and commissioning as Salvation Army officers. Congratulations to each of you!

God has called and equipped you for such a time as this. You have completed your training and applied yourself to the journey of learning and preparation. We are deeply grateful to those who have trained and encouraged you. Now, at the commencement of your ministry as officers, you experience this day of commitment and joyful celebration before you are sent out into a world that desperately needs you. It's a beautiful thing.

Yours must be more than a sessional name. In a world where biblical justice is markedly absent, you are called to be defenders of justice. You are much needed in a world filled with injustice. The Hebrew Scriptures often record justice being defended and proclaimed. Jesus himself affirmed justice when he commenced his own ministry with a proclamation of liberty to captives, and freedom from oppression. At the end of his ministry, he would send out his disciples with the same holistic gospel.

Officership will provide you with many opportunities to be defenders of justice. So, in the words of the Psalmist "Go forth to perform awe-inspiring deeds."

May God bless you richly in your service for him.

**Lyndon Buckingham**  
General

**Commissioner Bronwyn Buckingham**  
World President of Women's Ministries



The Salvation Army  
**Territorial Headquarters**  
Canada and Bermuda

2 Overlea Blvd.  
Toronto ON M4H 1P4

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*Office of the Territorial Commander*

### **Territorial Leaders Commissioning Letter – Defenders of Justice**

Dear Defenders of Justice,

We greet you joyfully on this occasion of your ordination and commissioning. What an honour to stand with each of you to acknowledge publicly the God who has called you, who has prepared and equipped you and who makes you bold and brave, filled with resolve to be fruitful in Kingdom ministry. *Defenders of Justice*—this is not only your sessional name, but also a clarion call as you step forward to serve in a world that is often anything but just. In his name, may you proclaim liberty in Christ for all.

May you not only help people find freedom from sin, but also defend those who are marginalized. May you reach out to those whose circumstances have left them feeling beaten and rejected; bring hope to those who simply need love, acceptance and care; speak truth to those who are spiritually dead and need to be awakened by the gospel. May we do all of this together, as officers of his Army, going out into the communities of our world in his name and with his authority.

As servant-leaders, stepping into your officership and appointments will require a strength that is not your own. You will need a grace that comes only from him; a passion and compassion only he can provide. As you lean on God, go forward with a spiritual vibrancy, doing good, seeking justice and correcting oppression (see Isaiah 1:17 ESV).

As the newest officers of the Canada and Bermuda Territory, know that Army leaders, officers, Salvationists and friends celebrate this day with you. We offer our warmest congratulations and promise continuous, prayerful support as we walk together, meeting human needs and transforming lives.

May God bless you.

Commissioners Lee and Debbie Graves  
Territorial Leaders, Canada and Bermuda Territory



William and Catherine Booth  
Founders

Lyndon Buckingham  
General

Lee Graves  
Territorial Commander



**CFOT**

College for Officer Training  
Canada and Bermuda Territory

The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters  
2 Overlea Blvd, Toronto, ON M4H 1P4  
Tel: 416-425-2111

Prepare | Develop | Inspire [www.CFOT.ca](http://www.CFOT.ca)

Dear Cadets of the Defenders of Justice Session,

With delight and gratitude to God, the CFOT community joins me in extending sincere congratulations on your ordination and commissioning.

Your journey to officership has been unique! In addition to the rigour of training, you have embraced the responsibilities of corps leadership with competency and steadfastness. More importantly, you have practised the way of Jesus personally and in the community as you have embodied the verse associated with your sessional name by living justly, loving mercy and walking humbly with your God.

“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? **To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God**” (Micah 6:8).

Your response to God’s calling on your life to be a Salvation Army officer will require an ongoing commitment to go out into a troubled world, living out true justice in your words and actions. You are already doing this! As you continue to show compassion and forgiveness to others, you are encouraged to stay close to Jesus and to keep nurturing a deep and abiding relationship with Him.

As you prepare to return to the ministry God has appointed you, be assured that the College for Officer Training staff, employees and the Champions of the Mission Session are praying for you.

In grace and peace,

Deana Zelinsky  
Major  
Training Principal



William and Catherine Booth  
Founders

Lyndon Buckingham  
General

Lee Graves  
Territorial Commander

Deana Zelinsky  
Training Principal

# **Celebration of Covenant**

## **Ordination and Commissioning of Defenders of Justice**

Mississauga Community Church, Mississauga, Ont.

June 22, 2024, 1:00 pm

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Prelude

Canadian Staff Band – Bandmaster John Lam  
Canadian Staff Songsters – Songster Leader Cathie Koehnen

Land Acknowledgment

Video

Entrance of Territorial Flag and Platform Party

Canadian Staff Band

Welcome  
Introduction of Territorial Leaders

Colonel John Chamness  
*Chief Secretary*

Congregational Worship

*Dear Lord, I Do Surrender*

Colonel John Chamness  
*Chief Secretary*

Canadian Staff Band

Call to Worship

Colonel Lani Chamness  
*Territorial Secretary for Spiritual Life Development*

Entrance of Defenders of Justice Sessional Flag

Cadet Mirna Dirani  
*Flag-Bearer*

Entrance of Cadets

*In Christ's Footsteps*  
Words: Major Heather Samuel Music: Captain Nicholas Samuel

Canadian Staff Songsters

Congregational Worship

*What a Faithful God*

NEON

Pastoral Prayer

Lieut.-Colonel Les Marshall  
*Territorial Secretary for Mission*

Presentation of Defenders of Justice

Major Deana Zelinsky  
*Training Principal*

Officer's Covenant

Defenders of Justice  
(In English and Arabic)

Scripture Reading

1 Peter 2:4-10

Lieut.-Colonel Shawn Critch  
*Divisional Commander, Ontario Division*

Declaration of Faith

Colonel John Chamness  
*Chief Secretary*

Territorial Leader's Charge

**Chosen**

**Commissioner Debbie Graves**  
*Territorial President of Women's Ministries*

Preparation in Prayer

*I Would Be Thy Holy Temple*

**Lieut.-Colonel Roxanne Jennings**  
*Secretary for Personnel*  
**Piano - Rachel Ewing**

**Ordination and Commissioning**  
**Commissioners Lee and Debbie Graves**  
*Territorial Commander and*  
*Territorial President of Women's Ministries*

Prayer of Dedication

**Commissioner Lee Graves**  
*Territorial Commander*

**Canadian Staff Songsters**

*We Are Held*

Words: Robert Bode Music: Susan LaBarr and Jim Wilson

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**Musical Interlude**

Canadian Staff Band and Canadian Staff Songsters

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Call Back to Worship

**NEON**

Entrance of Territorial Leaders, Cabinet Secretaries and Divisional Leaders

**Canadian Staff Band**

Entrance of Champions of the Mission

**Cadet John Arndt**  
*Flag-Bearer*

Entrance of New Lieutenants

**Major Deana Zelinsky**  
*Training Principal*

Recognition of Appointments - Defenders of Justice

**Commissioners Lee and Debbie Graves**  
*Territorial Leaders*

Supported by

**Lieut.-Colonel Roxanne Jennings**  
*Secretary for Personnel*

Congregational Worship

*Drenched in Love*

**NEON**

Prayers

**Lieutenant Tharwat Eskander**  
**Lieut.-Colonel John Murray**  
*Territorial Secretary For Communications*

Congregational Worship

*I Speak Jesus*

**NEON**

Defenders of Justice Representative Speaker

Congregational Worship

*Build Your Kingdom Here*

Lieutenant Jennifer Thompson

Lieutenant Jennifer Thompson  
NEON

Recognition of CFOT Training Partners

Major Margaret McLeod  
*Assistant Training Principal,  
Mission and Ministry Coordinator*

Congregational Worship

*O Church, Arise*

Major Margaret McLeod  
*Assistant Training Principal,  
Mission and Ministry Coordinator*  
Canadian Staff Band

**Recognition and Celebration of Calling/Service**  
Commissioner Lee Graves  
Major Patricia Tuppenney

Congregational Worship

*O Church, Arise*

Bandmaster John Lam  
Canadian Staff Band

Scripture Reading

1 Chronicles 29:10-13

Lieutenant Jennifer Rideout

**He Will Never Fail**  
Commissioner Lee Graves  
*Territorial Commander*

Response and Acknowledgment of God's Constant Call

*All to Jesus I Surrender*

Commissioner Lee Graves  
*Territorial Commander*  
Piano - Rachel Ewing

Prayer

Major Carson Decker  
*Territorial Candidates Secretary*

Congregational Worship

*Sound the Battle Cry!*

Major Deana Zelinsky  
*Training Principal*  
Canadian Staff Band

Benediction

*Lord, If Your Presence*

Major Deana Zelinsky  
*Training Principal*  
Canadian Staff Band



**Celebration of Calling**  
**Ordination and Commissioning | Sunday Morning**  
 Mississauga Community Church, Mississauga, Ont.  
 June 23, 2024, 10:30 am

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Prelude		Mississauga Community Church Worship Team Canadian Staff Songsters – Songster Leader Cathie Koehnen
Words of Welcome		Captain Graciela Arkell <i>Corps Officer, Mississauga Community Church</i>
Congregational Worship	<i>Shout to the North</i>	Commissioner Debbie Graves <i>Territorial President of Women’s Ministries</i> Mississauga Community Church Worship Team
Call to Worship		Major Kelly Rideout <i>Theological Formation Coordinator</i>
Reflection	<i>All There Is of Me</i>	Deliah Williams Piano – Rachel Ewing
Prayers		Cadet Josette Joseph and Lieutenant Neil Thompson
Scripture Reading	Acts 14:8-20	Lieutenant Mirna Dirani
Worship Through Tithes and Offering		Captain Graciela Arkell Canadian Staff Songsters
Congregational Worship	<i>Jesus, What a Saviour</i> Words: Shannon Wexelberg Arr: Camp Kirkland	Mississauga Community Church Worship Team
Video Testimony	<i>I Thank God</i> <i>Take My Life (I Am Yours)</i>	Defenders of Justice
Congregational Worship	<i>Living Our Calling</i> <i>The Servant King</i>	Colonel Lani Chamness <i>Territorial Secretary for Spiritual Life Development</i> Mississauga Community Church Worship Team
	<b>Make Disciples</b> Commissioner Lee Graves <i>Territorial Commander</i>	
Response		Piano – Rachel Ewing
Congregational Worship	<i>Salvation for the World</i>	Colonel John Chamness <i>Chief Secretary</i> Mississauga Community Church Worship Team
Benediction	<i>Make Me a Servant</i>	Captain Jeff Arkell <i>Corps Officer, Mississauga Community Church</i> Mississauga Community Church Worship Team



**THE SALVATION ARMY**  
WILLIAM AND CATHERINE BOOTH, FOUNDERS  
CANADA AND BERMUDA TERRITORY

**COLLEGE FOR OFFICER TRAINING**  
TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS

# MY COVENANT

CALLED BY GOD

to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ  
as an officer of The Salvation Army

I BIND MYSELF TO HIM IN THIS SOLEMN COVENANT

*To Love* and serve Him supremely all my days;

*To Live* to win souls and make their salvation the first purpose  
of my life;

*To Care* for the poor, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, love the  
unloved and befriend those who have no friends;

*To Maintain* the doctrines and principles of The Salvation  
Army and by God's grace to prove myself a worthy officer;

*Done* in the strength of my Lord and Saviour and in the presence  
of the territorial commander, training college officers  
and fellow cadets.

DEFENDERS OF JUSTICE  
COVENANT DAY – JUNE 20, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_ Cadet

\_\_\_\_\_ Witness Territorial Commander

\_\_\_\_\_ Witness Training Principal

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**The cadets (standing) will say:** In the name of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and in the presence of the officers, soldiers and friends of The Salvation Army here assembled, we declare that:

- 1.** We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and that they only constitute the Divine rule of Christian faith and practice.
- 2.** We believe that there is only one God, who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver and Governor of all things, and who is the only proper object of religious worship.
- 3.** We believe that there are three persons in the Godhead – the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, undivided in essence and co-equal in power and glory.
- 4.** We believe that in the person of Jesus Christ the Divine and human natures are united, so that He is truly and properly God and truly and properly man.
- 5.** We believe that our first parents were created in a state of innocency, but by their disobedience they lost their purity and happiness, and that in consequence of their fall all men have become sinners, totally depraved, and as such are justly exposed to the wrath of God.
- 6.** We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has by his suffering and death made an atonement for the whole world so that whosoever will may be saved.
- 7.** We believe that repentance towards God, faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and regeneration by the Holy Spirit, are necessary to salvation.
- 8.** We believe that we are justified by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and that he that believeth hath the witness in himself.
- 9.** We believe that continuance in a state of salvation depends upon continued obedient faith in Christ.
- 10.** We believe that it is the privilege of all believers to be wholly sanctified, and that their whole spirit and soul and body may be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**11.** We believe in the immortality of the soul; in the resurrection of the body; in the general judgment at the end of the world; in the eternal happiness of the righteous; and in the endless punishment of the wicked.

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**The Chief Secretary will say:** Do you promise faithfully to maintain and proclaim these truths?

**The cadets will reply:** We do!

**The Chief Secretary will say:** Do you regard it as your duty to bear this witness everywhere, to strive to lead all persons to their only Saviour, and for His sake to care for the poor, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, love the unloved, and befriend those who have no friends?

**The cadets will reply:** We do!

**The Chief Secretary will say:** Do you promise by holy living, boundless charity and adherence to the principles and discipline of the Army to show yourselves at all times to be faithful officers of The Salvation Army?

**The cadets will reply:** We do!

**The Chief Secretary will say:** In the name of God I accept the declarations and promises you have made this day. We will now proceed to your ordination and commissioning.

# DEFENDERS OF JUSTICE



12 Neil Thompson

Jennifer Thompson

Jennifer Rideout

Mirna Dirani

Tharwat Eskander

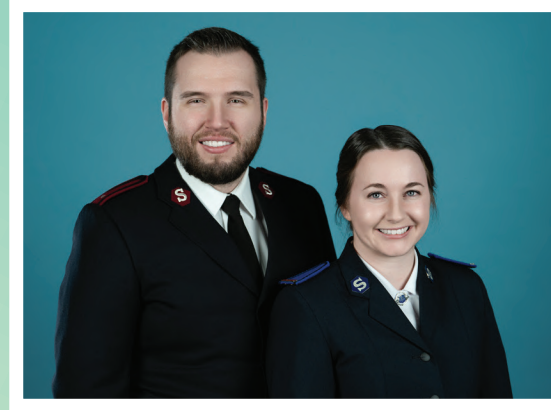
## DEFENDERS OF JUSTICE



Cadets Jennifer and Neil Thompson  
with Nathan (not shown), Benjamin, Lucas, Aiden

**Out of:** Vernon Community Church, British Columbia Division

**Field Training Corps:** Vernon Community Church,  
British Columbia Division



Cadet Jennifer Rideout with  
Lieutenant Matthew Rideout

**Out of:** Southlands Community Church, Prairies and Northern Territories Division

**Field Training Corps:** Weetamah Corps, Winnipeg,  
Prairies and Northern Territories Division, and  
Georgina Community Church, Ontario Division



Cadets Mirna Dirani and Tharwat Eskander  
with Benjamin, Francois, Ariela, Hannah

**Out of:** Richmond Hill Community Church, Ontario Division

**Field Training Corps:** Mississauga Community Church, Ontario Division

# CHAMPIONS OF THE MISSION



John Arndt  
Alicia McLeod

Brian Fisher-Smith  
Josette Joseph

Wilder Jean-Charles  
Hannah Chaulk

Peter Chaulk  
Chesney Edwards

Joshua Edwards  
Bobbi Oyerinde

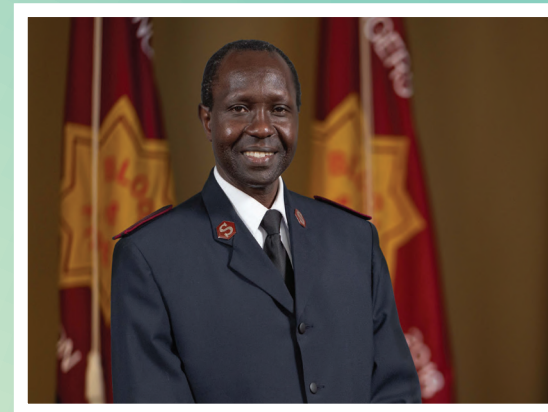
## AUXILIARY-CAPTAINS

Auxiliary-Captains are a valued part of the CFOT community. They are non-commissioned officers with full-time appointments in The Salvation Army. Auxiliary-Captains engage in distance training studies under the direction of CFOT and are commissioned once they complete the criteria for officer training.



**Arthur Heathcote**

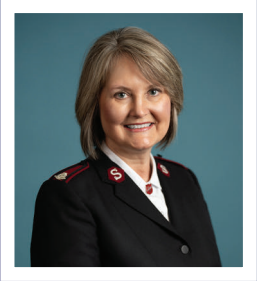
**Out of:** Weetamah Corps,  
Prairies and Northern Territories Division  
**Serving as:** Corps Officer, Fort Frances,  
Prairies and Northern Territories Division



**Charles Okongo**

**Out of:** Etobicoke Temple, Ontario Division  
**Serving as:** Chaplain, Winnipeg Centre of Hope,  
Prairies and Northern Territories Division

## CFOT TRAINING OFFICERS



**Major Deana Zelinsky**  
Training Principal



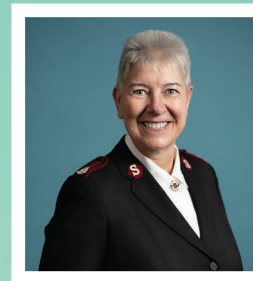
**Major Margaret McLeod**  
Assistant Training Principal,  
Mission and Ministry Coordinator



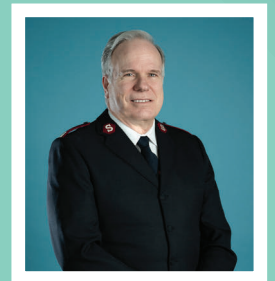
**Major Paul Rideout**  
Personnel Officer,  
Spiritual Formation Coordinator



**Major Kelly Rideout**  
Theological Formation Coordinator

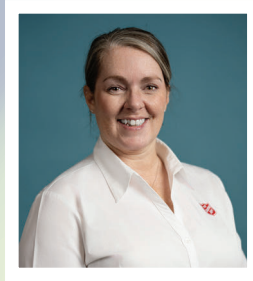


**Major Geraldine Lindholm**  
Curriculum Coordinator



**Major Royal Senter**  
Administrative Officer/  
Business Services Officer

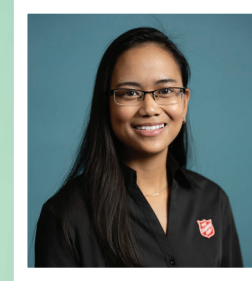
## CANDIDATES DEPARTMENT



**Shona Burditt**  
Candidates Project Coordinator



**Major Carson Decker**  
Territorial Candidates Secretary



**Janah Vitalicio**  
Administrative Coordinator

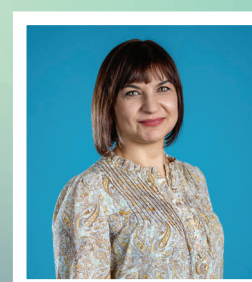
## CFOT STAFF



**Dr. Michael Boyce**  
Director Program Implementation



**Joy Ball**  
Executive Assistant



**Viktoriia Smahytel**  
Administrative Coordinator





**The new College for Officer Training opened in Toronto on September 16, 2023. From left, Cadet Neil Thompson, Commissioners Lee and Debbie Graves, and Cadet Alicia McLeod participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony.**



**He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.  
And what does the Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy  
and to walk humbly  
with your God.**

**Micah 6:8**

## THREE STEPS IN THE COMMISSIONING OF SALVATION ARMY OFFICERS

**1. Signing of the Officer Covenant** The Officer Covenant is signed by a person about to be ordained and commissioned. The Covenant is made between that person and God. It is the means whereby a person binds himself or herself to God in the making of solemn vows.

The Bible has many examples of believers entering into sacred covenants with God, who accepts our covenants and takes them seriously. Each person signing the Officer Covenant does so of their own free will, in the clear understanding that the commitment is intended to be life-long.

**2. Ordination and Commissioning** allows the wider membership of the Body of Christ to gather in order to warmly affirm and encourage those about to become officers, and in order to witness publicly the moments of ordination and commissioning.

The cadets are helped by the prayers and intercessions of the faithful. The cadets declare before many witnesses that they will be loyal to Christ, will hold to the Doctrines of the Army, will be available to the marginalized, and will be obedient to the principles and purposes for which God raised up The Salvation Army.

**3. Appointing** is when specific responsibilities are placed upon the newly ordained and commissioned officer. The officer is granted the authority both to serve and to lead within the ranks of The Salvation Army. This is the outward authentication of an inward summons from God, and the imparting to the officer of the obligation to be a servant of all for the sake of Christ.



# CFOT

*The Salvation Army College for Officer Training  
Canada and Bermuda Territory*

**Welcome Meeting for  
Keepers of the Covenant  
September 15, 2024  
Toronto**

## **Children's Programming**

**Grades 1-7 • CoMission I.N.G.**

Check in with Mission Command in the tent at Mississauga Community Church

**Ages 2-5 • Childcare Available**