



# Paramedic Services Week May 23- 29, 2021



## Public education is focus of Paramedic Services Week

The theme for Paramedic Services Week, May 23 to 29, is Paramedic as Educator – Citizen Ready, a message that demonstrates the important role that paramedics play as educators to the public, according to organizers.

As healthcare professionals, paramedics are often incorporating the best research into practice but the public doesn't always know why, states the Paramedic Chiefs of Canada (PCC). In efforts to help the public understand why simple steps taken can make the difference in many emergencies prior to help arriving, the Paramedic Chiefs of Canada is building on existing education and incorporating



new trending treatments for the public to be "citizen ready".

"The commitment of paramedics deserves to be celebrated every week of every year. But it is especially important at this moment, as we navigate our way through the COVID-19 pandemic. Paramedics put themselves at risk to serve the public every day. When most of us are running away from danger, they are running towards it.

This is even truer today with COVID-19," states the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) on its website.

The statement acknowledging Paramedic Services Week goes on to say; "All front-line health care professionals, emergency medical staff, first responders,

dispatchers, and members of the paramedic team deserve our thanks for their heroism in these most difficult circumstances."

Each weekday, from Monday to Friday of Paramedic Services Week, has been given a specific public education focus that is designed to prepare citizens for an emergency with topics that include activation of 911, control of bleeding, high performance CPR, opioid overdoses, and emergency preparedness. Saturday, May 29 is Paramedic Services Recognition Day, an opportunity for the public to get to know their local paramedics and emergency medical responders through special initiatives.

To find more details about the focus of the week, visit the Paramedic Chiefs of Canada website at [paramedicchiefs.ca/paramedic-services-week-2021](http://paramedicchiefs.ca/paramedic-services-week-2021).



Photos courtesy of Ontario Paramedic Association

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