

Newly autonomous Angels may be flying around city a month early

By [PABLO FERNANDEZ](#), SUN MEDIA

Their national organization may have floundered and fallen, but the local chapter of the Guardian Angels is expected to hit the street ahead of schedule, officials said yesterday.

Guardian Angels of Canada has ceased operations as an umbrella organization for chapters in Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver and Calgary, said Toronto Chapter director Stephen Paquette.

"Each chapter is operating independently, where as before ... we were running from a national perspective."

The chapters are autonomous, but fall under New York-based Alliance of Guardian Angels, directed by Guardian Angels founder Curtis Sliwa, said Calgary chapter spokesman Greg Martin, adding he hopes the changes will help the groups.

"It's easier for us because of how widespread we are," said Martin. "It's hard for the people in Ontario to know exactly what we need."

The Calgary chapter, which was hoping to be out patrolling in April, will likely be walking the beat as soon as mid-March, said Martin.