

Media Report 19 Nov 2021

This weeks media reports will cover and answer great questions veterans are still asking such as Frequently asked questions regarding COVID-19 in Ottawa. Due to ongoing and evolving COVID-19 pandemic callers may experience increased wait times when calling the Government of Canada Pension Center. Callers may also experience dropped calls, as all telecommunication networks across Canada are presently facing capacity challenges. and local Media Articles and An illness or injury can have an impact on your ability to adjust to life after service. We all need healthcare services. The Treatment benefits program provides coverage for a variety of benefits and services to help you get—and stay healthy. Have you made an application for disability benefits from Veterans Affairs Canada and received a decision? If you disagree with that decision, you have the right to review or appeal

Explosion at Vancouver Island military base injures 10

[10 injured in 'significant' explosion at Vancouver Island military base \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/10-injured-in-significant-explosion-at-vancouver-island-military-base)

Canadian soldiers are heading to B.C. to provide flooding ..

[Canadian soldiers are heading to B.C. to provide flooding support – BC News – Castanet.net](https://www.bcnnews.com/news/canadian-soldiers-are-heading-to-b.c.-to-provide-flooding-support)

Neil MacLeod and Matt Carson led Remembrance ceremonies at Clayton, Pakenham and Almonte where we also laid NATO Veterans wreaths.

I wore a French rosette to commemorate 385 NATO comrades buried at Choloy France and others in cemeteries in Europe.

We remember.

Matt

Thank you Matt

Canada

Total Percentage of population vaccinated	Total Percentage of population fully vaccinated	Eligible (12+) Percentage of population vaccinated	Eligible (12+) Percentage of population fully vaccinated	
78.32%	74.89%	89.52%	85.61%	
+0.01%	+0.02%	+0.01%	+0.03%	
Total doses administered	First doses	Second doses	Third+ doses	Received doses administered
59,187,947	29,944,883	28,636,291	606,773	88.51%
+13,066	+4,377	+8,689	+0	+0.02%

Veterans Affairs Canada and the Veterans Review and Appeal Board launched an accessibility consultation on 17 November with Veterans, their family members and other Canadians. We need your feedback to learn about any accessibility barriers you or others may experience.

Canada has a [vision](#) of its public service being the most accessible and inclusive in the world. This includes working with persons with disabilities to help identify, prevent and remove accessibility barriers.

You'll find this consultation on our [Let's Talk Veterans platform](#) until 14 December. The final report will be published on the platform in 2022.

To learn more about our consultations and to stay connected on Veterans' issues, visit [Let's Talk Veterans](#).

Sincerely,

Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach Team

Veterans Affairs Canada

Bonjour,

Anciens Combattants Canada et Tribunal des anciens combattants (révision et appel) ont lancé une consultation sur l'accessibilité le 17 novembre auprès des vétérans, des membres de leur famille et d'autres Canadiens. Nous souhaitons obtenir vos commentaires pour en savoir plus au sujet des obstacles à l'accessibilité auxquels vous ou d'autres peuvent se heurter.

Le Canada a une [vision](#) de sa fonction publique comme étant la plus accessible et inclusive au monde. À cet égard, il faut notamment collaborer avec les personnes handicapées pour cerner, prévenir et éliminer les obstacles à l'accessibilité.

Vous trouverez cette consultation sur notre [plateforme Parlons vétérans](#) jusqu'au 14 décembre. Le rapport final sera publié sur la plateforme en 2022.

Pour en savoir plus sur nos consultations et demeurer au fait des questions relatives aux vétérans, visitez le site [Parlons vétérans](#).

Cordialement,

L'équipe de Mobilisation et sensibilisation des intervenants

Anciens Combattants Canada

Disability benefits

A disability benefit is a tax-free, financial payment to support your well-being.

The amount you receive depends on the degree to which your condition is related to your service (entitlement) and the severity of your condition, including its impact on your quality of life (assessment).

Do you qualify?

To qualify for a disability benefit you must be one of the following:

- Canadian Armed Forces member or Veteran,
- a current or former member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP),
- Second World War or Korean War Veteran (includes Merchant Navy), or
- [certain civilians](#) who served in the Second World War.

You should apply for a disability benefit if you:

1. have a diagnosed medical condition or disability; and
2. are able to show that the condition is related to your service.

If you qualify for a disability benefit, you will receive either a:

1. Pain and suffering compensation * – a life-time monthly benefit or lump sum benefit – the choice is yours.

- [View the pain and suffering compensation rates](#).

- [View all](#) Pain and Suffering Compensation FAQs.

or

2. Disability pension ** – a life-time monthly benefit. If you have any dependents (e.g. spouse, common-law partner and/or children), your monthly amount will be increased.

View the [disability pension rates](#).

*If you have a pending application for a disability benefit and were expecting to receive a disability award, you do not need to re-apply. Your application for a disability benefit will now be processed as Pain and Suffering Compensation.

**A disability pension is provided if you served with the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) in the Second World War or Korean War. For other CAF service, a disability pension is provided in relation to any application prior to April 1, 2006.

How to apply

Apply online

Apply online through My VAC Account. Applying is easier with a guided form. Sign in or register for My VAC Account.

[My VAC Account](#)

Mail or in person

Download the application form. Then, drop it off at any [VAC office](#), [CAF Transition Centre](#) or [Service Canada office](#). You can also mail your completed form directly to the address listed on the form.

[Go to form](#)

Get help with your application

The staff at any [VAC office](#), [CAF Transition Centre](#) or [Service Canada office](#) can assist you or call us at 1-866-522-2122. Service Officers with [The Royal Canadian Legion](#) or [The War Amps of Canada](#) can also assist you with your application, including helping you get all of the information you need to support your application. Their assistance is free of charge.

Disability pension corrective payment

If you received a benefit from VAC between 2003 and 2010 and it was under the Pension Act, you may receive a corrective payment because of a discrepancy in our calculations. Most payments are automatic, however, Please [contact us](#) at 1-866-522-2122 if:

- You no longer receive a benefit from VAC, or
- You represent the estate of a deceased recipient.

If you are legally entitled to inherit assets from the estate of a deceased recipient, you may [apply to receive a corrective payment](#) if you are eligible.

Additional information

[The application package](#)—learn more about all of the components that make up an application for a disability benefit.

[How we review a claim for a disability benefit](#)—learn more about how your disability claim is reviewed by the department and particularly, by the adjudicator – a trained decision-maker for disability claims.

[Disability Pension Corrective Payment](#)—If you are legally entitled to inherit the assets of a deceased benefit recipient, you may apply to receive the corrective payment.

Monthly payment dates – 2021

- January 28
- February 25
- March 30
- April 29
- May 28
- June 29
- July 29
- August 30
- September 29
- October 28
- November 29
- December 23

Reviews and appeals

If you do not agree with the decision made regarding your application for disability benefits, you may request a Departmental review. Learn more about [reviews and appeals](#).

Reassessment

If the disability for which you are receiving VAC benefits worsens and medical evidence can show this change in your condition, you can request a reassessment. If the reassessment confirms that your condition has worsened, your disability benefit, will be adjusted accordingly – unless you are already receiving the maximum amount of the benefit. To request a reassessment, your first step should be to [call us or visit your local VAC office](#).

Tools for Adjudication

[Eligibility Entitlement Guidelines](#)– These guidelines are current medical and scientific descriptions of known injuries and diseases related to service.

[Table of Disabilities](#)– This table helps the adjudicator assess the level of impairment and the impact that impairment has on your quality of life.

Related programs

[Critical injury benefit](#)- A one-time payment that recognizes the immediate impact of the most severe and traumatic service-related injuries or diseases.

[Rehabilitation services](#)- Services to improve your health and adjust to life after service.

[Clothing allowance](#)- Monthly payments if you need new or special clothing due to your health issues.

[Treatment Benefits](#)– Coverage for medical and health related services.

[Benefits for survivors](#)– Financial support or compensation for the survivors of a disability pensioner or of a member or Veteran who died in service or as a result of a service-related illness or injury.

[Financial advice](#)- If you receive a lump-sum payment more than 5% of the current maximum, we can pay up to \$500 for professional advice to help you manage your money effectively.

[Additional pain and suffering compensation](#)- Monthly payments in recognition of any severe and permanent disability, related to your military service, which creates a barrier to life after service.

Programs related to a disability pension:

[Attendance allowance](#)- Monthly payments for a disability pensioner whose health needs require daily personal care support.

[Exceptional incapacity allowance](#)- Monthly payments if your illness or injury impacts your quality of life.

Frequently asked questions

If I apply for the benefit and get declined, can I appeal?

Yes. If you are not satisfied with a decision you may apply in writing for a review. Learn more about [your review and appeal options](#).

How is my request for Disability Benefits decided?

Learn more about [how we review a disability benefit claim](#).

Are there policies for this program?

Yes. Read more about the [Disability Benefits](#) policies.

[Read more FAQs](#) about the disability benefits program.

NATO NEWS AND THOUGHTS [From SHELLDRAKE] 19 November 2021.

A Veterans Affairs Canada Deputy Ministers (Paul Ledwell, Deputy Minister) Coffee Group meeting was held via a virtual platform on 18 November. Our National President attended and will report in next weeks "Media Report". The main issue continues to be long wait times for processing of Veteran claims. This continues to be a major irritant for Veterans.

Concerns over Russian troops. Ukraine's Western allies have warned that Russia is massing

troops on the Ukrainian border. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Friday 12 November that Washington was "very concerned about some of the irregular movements of forces that we see on Ukraine's border." Meanwhile, Ukraine received the fourth delivery of supplies – 80 tons of ammunition – from the United States as part of a \$60 million aid package promised to Kyiv in August

Reaching out to NATO. Poland, Lithuania and Latvia are considering triggering Article 4 of the NATO treaty, which allows member states to ask for consultations if they feel their territorial integrity, political independence or security is threatened, amid an influx of migrants coming across the Belarusian border. The Polish prime minister on Sunday called on NATO to take "concrete steps" to address the issue. The EU foreign affairs chief confirmed on Monday that the bloc would impose sanctions against Belarus targeting the Minsk airport and other facilities and hotels hosting migrants

Inconceivable. Australian Defense Minister Peter Dutton said it was inconceivable that Australia would decline to help the U.S. defend Taiwan in the event of an attack. It's the latest in a series of hints from the U.S. and its allies of a willingness to go to bat for the self-ruled island. It comes on the heels of similar comments from the U.S. secretary of state and president that the U.S. may be clarifying its commitments to Taipei. Australia and Japan, meanwhile, are continuing to deepen naval interoperability.

Russian delivery. Russia has started delivering components of the S-400 air defense system to India ahead of Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit next month. Delivery of the first division of the system is set to be completed by the end of 2021. India purchased the unit in 2018 for \$5.4 billion.

Thank you Randy S.

PTSDCoach Canada

The PTSD Coach Canada mobile app can help you learn about and manage symptoms that can occur after trauma. Features include:

- Reliable and current information on PTSD and about treatments that are effective
- Tools for screening and tracking your symptoms
- Convenient, easy-to-use tools to help you manage stress symptoms
- Information on crisis support and how to get help

What if I don't have a mobile device?

No problem. [Non-interactive sections](#) PTSD Coach Canada are available on the VAC Website.

How to use PTSD Coach Canada

PTSD Coach Canada is a tool to help manage the symptoms associated with PTSD, it is not intended as a replacement for professional care. This mobile app provides information and self-help tools based on current research. Together with professional treatment, PTSD Coach Canada provides dependable resources you can trust.

Family and friends can also benefit from this app.

Background

PTSD Coach Canada was developed by Veterans Affairs Canada in partnership with the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Mental Health Association. PTSD Coach Canada has been adapted from PTSD Coach with permission of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and U.S. Department of Defense.

Download the PTSD Coach Canada app

[iOS](#)[Android](#)

Privacy and security

Any data entered in the app is only as secure as your phone/device. If you are concerned about your privacy, be sure to enable the security features on your device.

Veterans Independence Program

THIS PROGRAM CAN HELP VETERANS WITH SNOW REMOVAL AND GRASS CUTTING

About this program

The Veterans Independence Program provides annual tax-free funding for services such as grounds maintenance, housekeeping, meal preparation, personal care, and professional health and support services.

This program does not replace other federal, provincial or municipal programs. Instead, it is intended to work with those programs to help meet your needs.

Note: If you think you may have a need for these services, be sure to complete the Veterans Independence Program application at the same time as your Pain and Suffering Compensation application. If approved, this will allow you to access support at the earliest possible date.

Do you qualify?

You should apply for the Veterans Independence Program if you need home care services and you:

- have qualified for a disability benefit, or
 - have qualified for the War Veterans Allowance, or
 - receive Prisoner of War Compensation, or
 - are eligible for, but can't access, a Contract Bed (also known as a Priority Access Bed) in a long term care facility.
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How to apply

Apply online

Apply online through My VAC Account. Applying is easier with a guided form. Sign in or register for My VAC Account.

[My VAC Account](#)

Mail or in person

Download the application form. Then, drop it off at a [VAC office or at any Service Canada office](#). You can also mail your completed form directly to the address listed on the form.

[Go to form](#)

Get help with your application

The staff at any [VAC office](#) can assist you, or call us at 1-866-522-2122.

Additional information

Find out more

Services covered by VIP funding include:

- Grounds maintenance (can include snow removal, lawn mowing, etc.)
- Housekeeping (can include assistance with cleaning, laundry, meal preparation, errands, etc.)
- Access to nutrition (e.g. meal delivery services)
- Professional healthcare and support (nursing services, occupational therapy, assessments, etc.)
- Personal care
- Ambulatory healthcare (assessments, diagnostics, activities and transportation to these services)
- Transportation (transportation to social or community activities)
- Long term care
- Home adaptations (contribution towards modifications to the Veteran's principal residence that are necessary for the Veteran to carry out everyday activities).

See this chart for the [maximum rates payable](#) for these services.

[Healthcare service providers](#)- Learn more about providing VIP services and how to become a registered provider.

Related programs

[Disability Benefit](#): Compensation to recognize that your injury or illness is a result of your military service.

[War Veterans Allowance](#): Monthly payments if you have a low household income.

[Prisoner of War Compensation](#): Monthly compensation if you were taken prisoner or detained by enemy forces.

[Attendance Allowance](#): Monthly payments if your health needs require personal care support.

[Veterans Independence Program for survivors](#): As a surviving spouse, you may qualify for help to remain independent in your home.

[Veterans Independence Program for primary caregiver](#): You may qualify for help to remain independent in your home.

Frequently asked questions

What is the fastest way to apply for VIP services?

The fastest way to apply is by using [My VAC Account](#).

I am currently living outside of Canada, can I still receive my VIP benefits?

Unfortunately, Veterans Independence Program payments can only be provided to you when you are residing in Canada.

Can I choose any provider of services?

You may obtain services from the provider of your choice.

How is my housekeeping/grounds maintenance grant calculated?

The housekeeping and grounds maintenance grants are calculated based on your level of need and the going rate for these services in your area, up to [allowable maximum amount](#). These rates are determined by a review of costs for these services across the country, including the labour market index. This national rate table shows the [going rates payable by geographic area](#).

What is a “Benefit Year”? Do my benefits have an end date?

We create one-year arrangements for VIP benefits, however this does not mean that your benefits will stop after one year. Your benefits will continue for as long as you need them. The one-year arrangement is a mechanism we use to help manage your support. However, if your health needs or other circumstances change at any time, please contact us.

Are there policies for this program?

Read the [Veterans Independence Program policies](#).

STAY IN TOUCH WITH THESE CF NEWSPAPERS

Base/Wing — Newspaper

14 Wing Greenwood — [The Aurora](#)

22 Wing North Bay — [The Shield](#)

17 Wing Winnipeg — [The Voxair](#)

CFB Halifax — [The Trident](#)

4 Wing Cold Lake —[The Courier](#)

CFB Edmonton —[The Western Sentinel](#)

CFB Esquimalt —[The Lookout](#)

CFB Valcartier —[The Adsum](#)

CFSU Ottawa —[The Guard](#)

CFB Kingston —[Garrison News](#)

CFB Shilo —[The Shilo Stag](#)

CFB St Jean —[The Servir](#)

19 Wing Comox —[The Totem Times](#)

3 Wing Bagotville —[The Vortex](#)

8 Wing Trenton —[The Contact](#)

CFB Borden —[The Citizen](#)

CFB Petawawa —[The Petawawa Post](#)

IN THE NEWS

[A brief history of the All Sappers Memorial in Chilliwack, B.C.](#)

[Highway of Heroes — The Fallen](#)

[LGen Jennie Carignan receives Meritorious Service Cross](#)

[Tommy Prince, First Nations forgotten hero: A remembrance post](#)

[Always a veteran willing to help': Cape Breton man who served five tours overseas now helping other veterans](#)

[Labradorian Canadian forces member honoured at Ottawa Senators game](#)

[Se réinventer après l'armée](#)

[This is Charles Henry Byce: The most decorated Indigenous soldier from the Second World War](#)

[The backlog: Thousands of veterans with disabilities are waiting years for support](#)

[Canadian Armed Forces now providing potable water to residents of Iqaluit](#)

[La Légion royale canadienne de Drummondville rend hommage à ses anciens combattants](#)

[Retired firefighters from CFB Chilliwack set for annual gathering](#)

[Tools of War' train makes stop in Shaunavon](#)

[Explosives-filled Syrian bunker from 1967 war uncovered in Golan](#)

[Des drapeaux canadiens ornent les tombes d'anciens combattants à Pubnico-Ouest](#)

[The Amazing ELCAS Causeway](#)