

# Media Report 29 OCT 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

## 1. **New Minister of National Defence Announced – Canadian ...**

<https://www.cmfmag.ca/new-minister-of-national-defence-announced>

1 day ago · **New Minister of National Defence Anita Anand**. Minister Anita Anand moved from Public Services and Procurement to **Defence**. She was born and raised in Nova Scotia before moving to Ontario in 1985. In 2019, she was elected as the Member of Parliament for Oakville, and previously she has served as Minister of Public Services and Procurement.

<https://www.cmfmag.ca/new-minister-of-national-defence-announced/>

### **USA Military Retirees, Disabled Veterans to See Largest Pay Raise in Decades**

[Military Retirees, Disabled Veterans to See Largest Pay Raise in Decades](#)

[MOAA Webinar: Understanding Your Life Insurance Options](#)

[VA, TRICARE Warn Sleep Apnea Patients of CPAP Machine Recall](#)

[Changes to VA's Community Care Program Raise Concerns About Access](#)

[VA Secretary Outlines Priorities, Initiatives at MOAA's Annual Meeting](#)

[Colin Powell, Former Secretary of State and Joint Chiefs Chairman, Dies at 84](#)

[Arizona Chapter Leader Receives Advocacy Award](#)

Thank you Gord

- **NATO NEWS AND THOUGHTS [From SHELLDRAKE] 29 October 2021****NATO update**
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- .NATO on Monday 18 October, began week long drills called Steadfast Noon in southern Europe. Meanwhile, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said Moscow would halt the work of its permanent mission to NATO after the organization revoked the accreditation of eight members of the mission earlier this month. As the nineteen members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) contemplate the future of the Alliance in the next century, they are

confronted with a notable paradox. Following initial doubts and debate in the years following the cold war's demise, it is now widely agreed that NATO is the premier security organization in Europe. In contrast to the European Union (EU), the Organization for Security Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and even the United Nations (UN), the Atlantic Alliance is viewed by members and non-members alike as Europe's "go-to" organization in those cases where the threat or use of force is deemed appropriate in and around Europe. NATO attained this status by outperforming the other organizations in bringing peace, albeit belatedly, to the Balkans—first in Bosnia and later in Kosovo. It also proved to be more adept at meeting the needs and aspiration of central and eastern European countries yearning to become a recognized part of the west. While the EU concentrated on expanding its membership by initially incorporating rich, formerly neutral European countries, NATO opened its doors to the east, inviting the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland to join while affirming that membership would remain open to all qualified European countries.

- Notwithstanding NATO's leading status today, the fundamental purpose of the Atlantic Alliance in the post-cold war world remains essentially contested. Its members—old and new alike—have yet to fully agree on what a military organization born and raised in response to an overwhelming military threat emanating from the Soviet Union ought to do now that this threat has disappeared. Should its primary purpose remain to defend the territory of its members against direct attack, which, though less likely, remains a possibility in an uncertain and unstable world? Alternatively, should the Alliance aim to extend security and stability throughout the Euro-Atlantic region, accepting new members that meet the basic standards of market democracy, the rule of law, and a commitment to resolve internal and external disputes by peaceful means? Or should NATO extend its reach both geographically and functionally, defending not just the common territory but also the common interests of the Alliance members wherever these might be threatened? Depending on how NATO's members answer these fundamental questions about the Alliance's purpose, specific policy decision relating to its new strategic concept, its command and force structure arrangements, and the extent of its future enlargement will necessarily differ.
- NATO in the 21st Century: What Purpose? What Missions?[Selected Extracts from <https://www.brookings.edu/research/nato-in-the-21st-century-what-purpose-what-missions/>]
- **NATO's Russia strategy.** NATO defense ministers on 21 October agreed to a new plan to counter any future Russian attack. The plan includes a strategy to defend against simultaneous attacks around the Baltic and Black seas. It was revealed amid heightened tensions between Moscow and the alliance after NATO earlier this month expelled several members of Russia's NATO mission and the Kremlin suspended the mission's work in retaliation. **European defence.** Five members of the European Union – Germany, Finland, the Netherlands, Portugal and Slovenia – launched a project to establish a new rapid reaction force that would cover the whole bloc. The initiative would expand the bloc's battle groups, which currently consist of 1,500
- troops from various countries that can respond to crises. In addition to special forces and air transport, the new force would include cyber and space capabilities.

Thank you Randy

## Vocational assistance

Training and career-coaching to help you launch a new career. Vocational assistance

provides skills and training to find a new career and restore the earning capacity of a Veteran's family.

## About this program

Vocational assistance provides skills development, education or training and other supports to help you establish a new career.

Vocational specialists and other professionals will work with you to build your vocational assistance plan. The plan can include:

- employ ability assessments
- career counseling
- training, and
- job-search assistance

You will build your vocational assistance plan with the direct assistance of our service provider [Canadian Veterans Vocational Rehabilitation Services](#).

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## Do you qualify?

You should apply for vocational assistance if you are:

- the spouse/common-law partner of a Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Veteran who will not be able to take part in vocational rehabilitation due to their health condition, or
  - a survivor of a CAF member or Veteran whose death was service-related.
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## How to apply

### Apply online

If you are registered for My VAC Account, you can submit your application for this benefit online. My VAC Account offers a guided web form that makes applying easier. If you aren't registered, you can [register now](#).

[My VAC Account](#)

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### Mail or in person

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

[Go to form](#)

If you are the surviving spouse or common-law partner, [please use this form](#).

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## Get help with your application

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

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## Building a rehabilitation plan

We can usually make decisions about Vocational Assistance eligibility within a few weeks of receiving your application. If approved, you will receive the one-on-one support of a [VAC case manager](#) and be referred to our service provider, Canadian Veterans Vocational Rehabilitation Services, for an assessment of your vocational assistance needs. Your case manager will work with you (and your family) to identify your goals. Together you will build your vocational assistance plan.

To ensure your success, the plan will identify:

- your goals;
- the services and benefits you will need to reach those goals; and
- a time frame to complete it all.

You are the most important part of any successful rehab plan. As you work through your plan, it is important to keep in touch about your services or any challenges you face. Give feedback to your case manager or anyone who is working with you.

From start to finish, your VAC case manager will:

- work closely with you and your family;
  - respect your privacy and confidentiality;
  - help identify information and services you need;
  - help you develop support networks;
  - coordinate between you, your vocational professional, and other service providers; and
  - track and discuss your progress on a regular basis.
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## Additional information

### Related Services

- [Vocational rehabilitation](#)– Coaching, support and any other training you need to return to work or find a new job after an injury.
  - [Case management](#)– A case manager can help you set goals and find the services you need to overcome a challenge in your life.
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## Frequently asked questions

### **Does vocational assistance include support for child care so I can go to school for retraining?**

Yes. If retraining is part of your vocational assistance plan, we can include support for additional child care expenses. Your case manager will identify the need for this, and other supports, as you develop your vocational assistance plan together.

### **Are there policies for this program?**

Yes. Read more about the [policies related to Rehabilitation Services and Vocational Assistance Program](#).

## 1.6 Partial Entitlement

### **(I) - Background**

In accordance with the *Pension Act* or the *Veterans Well-being Act*, where a member of the forces suffers disability resulting from an injury or disease or an aggravation thereof that arose out of or was directly connected with such military service, a pension/award/compensation shall, on application, be awarded to or in respect of the member. Entitlement shall be given as either full or partial.

### **Partial Entitlement Awards**

#### **Example II(a):**

**In cases of partial entitlement, the Medical Impairment rating and the QOL rating are added and the level of entitlement is applied to determine the Disability Assessment.**

**A Member/Veteran/Client has been awarded partial entitlement for major depressive disorder. The following steps demonstrate how to calculate the Disability Assessment for this partially entitled condition.**

- Step 1: Determine the Medical Impairment rating for major depressive disorder = 15.
- Step 2: Determine if the Partially Contributing Table applies.

- Step 3: It is determined that the QOL level = 1. For the Medical Impairment rating of 15% the Quality of Life rating = 2.
- Step 4: The medical impairment rating and the QOL rating are added together = 17 (15 + 2).
- Step 5: To determine the Disability Assessment for the major depressive disorder apply the level of entitlement to the resulting rating at Step 4.  
(4/5 x 17% = 14%)

**Example II(b):**

**In cases where a combination of partially entitled and fully entitled conditions exist in the same body part or body system and the effects of the conditions are overlapping and difficult to separate out for assessment purposes, the entitled conditions will be bracketed together for assessment. The highest degree of entitlement will be used to calculate the Disability Assessment for the bracketed conditions.**

**A Member/Veteran/Client has been awarded full entitlement for mechanical low back pain and partial entitlement for lumbar disc disease. The following example demonstrates the steps used to calculate the Medical Impairment rating for the bracketed partially entitled conditions.**

**FULL ENTITLEMENT (5/5) FOR MECHANICAL LOW BACK PAIN**

**PARTIAL ENTITLEMENT (4/5) FOR LUMBAR DISC DISEASE**

- Step 1: Determine the Medical Impairment rating for mechanical low back pain and lumbar disc disease from [Table 17.19](#) in the Musculature Chapter. Medical Impairment rating for the two conditions = 13.
- Step 2: Determine the QOL rating = Level 1 = 2.
- Step 3: The medical impairment rating and the QOL rating are added together = **15 (13 + 2)**.
- Step 4: Determine the higher degree of entitlement of the two conditions (5/5 for mechanical low back pain vs. 4/5 for lumbar disc disease). **5/5** = higher degree of entitlement.
- Step 5: To determine the Disability Assessment for mechanical low back pain and the lumbar disc disease apply the highest level of entitlement (5/5ths) to the resulting rating at Step 3. (5/5 x 15 = 15%)

**STAY IN TOUCH WITH THESE CF NEWSPAPERS**

**Base/Wing — Newspaper**

14 Wing Greenwood — [The Aurora](#)  
22 Wing North Bay — [The Shield](#)  
4 Wing Cold Lake — [The Courier](#)  
CFB Esquimalt — [The Lookout](#)  
CFSU Ottawa — [The Guard](#)  
CFB Shilo — [The Shilo Stag](#)  
19 Wing Comox — [The Totem Times](#)  
8 Wing Trenton — [The Contact](#)  
CFB Petawawa — [The Petawawa Post](#)

17 Wing Winnipeg — [The Voxair](#)  
CFB Halifax — [The Trident](#)  
CFB Edmonton — [The Western Sentinel](#)  
CFB Valcartier — [The Adsum](#)  
CFB Kingston — [Garrison News](#)  
CFB St Jean — [The Servir](#)  
3 Wing Bagotville — [The Vortex](#)  
CFB Borden — [The Citizen](#)

## **N THE MEDIA**

[Regiment to conduct exercise in city on Oct. 23-24](#)

[Kamloops to celebrate Remembrance Day at Cenotaph](#)

[Le lieutenant-général Cadieu, qui devait prendre la tête de l'Armée, fait l'objet d'une enquête pour inconduite sexuelle](#)

[Veterans go virtual for local school](#)

[Canadian Forces owes it to veterans not to train neo-Nazis, says anti-Semitism group](#)

[Des hélicoptères de l'armée canadienne sur les plages du Débarquement](#)

[Artillery soldiers mark origins of Canadian military in Kingston](#)

[Senior army commander says 90% of military personnel are fully vaccinated](#)

[Un premier chien robot armé d'un fusil d'assaut](#)

[Aircraft museum eyes \\$200,000 restoration of saved-from-scrapyard jet](#)