

Media report 18 Dec 2020

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.

NATO Veterans Organization of Canada Presidents Christmas Message 2020

The gift of love.

The gift of peace.

The gift of happiness.

May all these be yours at Christmas.

On behalf of myself and the Board of Directors, thank you for all your support and guidance this year. Our thoughts are also with those Canadians that can't be with those dearest to them at this time, whether that be through their duties, either here or overseas, or other circumstances,

The Christmas holiday affords each of us time for gratitude and introspection. We can take stock of all we have accomplished for our Veterans, and all that remains to be done. May this wonderful time of the year touch your hearts in a special way. Wishing you all much happiness not just today, but throughout the New Year.

From our bubble to yours, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season! Stay safe and take good care of yourselves.

Randy

Randy Stowell,CD

National President

This is important and gives our members a voice. I intend to sign up! Lets put this on our Website and include in our weekly newsletters.

Randy

Local newspaper featured a “Local Veteran Receives National Honour” NVOC National President MR.Randy Stowell,CD

<https://ngtimes.ca/local-veteran-receives-national-honour-for-volunteerism/>

Let's Talk Veterans / Parlons vétérans

This is a new initiative by VAC to connect with more Veterans in an effective way. Important information for our members.

Let's Talk Veterans

We Asked, You Said, We Did.

We believe those we serve need to be at the heart of every decision we make. In support of this commitment to Veterans, retired RCMP members, and the families who care and support them, Veterans Affairs Canada is launching Let's Talk Veterans([Let's Talk Veterans](#))on 15 December 2020. This new online stakeholder engagement platform will help us consult on topics relevant to the Veteran community and allow for broad and diverse stakeholder participation from across Canada.

Our goal is to give those who are passionate about Veterans' issues the power to influence our policy and improve upon the programs we offer. By increasing our capacity to seek guidance from Veterans and active members of the service community, their representatives, families, and Canadians everywhere, we can focus our research and improve how we design and deliver programs to meet the modern and changing needs of those we serve.

We are planning two consultations in early 2021 to officially launch Let's Talk Veterans. These consultations will explore the future of Commemoration activities as well as, focus on elements of the disability application to reduce wait times.

After each consultation, a final report or summary will be posted to Let's Talk Veterans, clearly showing the feedback that we have received. A section for each consultation will display three categories - “We Asked”, “You Said”, and “We Did” - which outlines the outcomes of the consultation and how we responded.

If you want to support Veterans and their families please visit Let's Talk

Veterans and [sign up](#) to register. The registration process takes less than 60 seconds and only needs to be done one time. Once you are registered, you will be automatically notified each time we launch a new consultation and may also choose to receive future editions of this newsletter by email.

Parlons vétérans

Questions, réponses, actions

Selon nous, nos clients doivent être au cœur de chaque décision que nous prenons. À l'appui de cet engagement envers les vétérans, les membres retraités de la GRC et les familles qui en prennent soin et les aident, Anciens Combattants Canada lance Parlons vétérans ([Parlons vétérans](#)) le 15 décembre 2020. Cette nouvelle plateforme en ligne pour la mobilisation des intervenants nous aidera à tenir des consultations sur des sujets liés à la communauté des vétérans et permettra la participation vaste et diversifiée d'intervenants partout au Canada.

Notre objectif est de donner aux passionnés des questions touchant les vétérans le pouvoir d'influer sur nos politiques et d'améliorer les programmes que nous offrons. En augmentant notre capacité à demander conseil aux vétérans et aux militaires actifs, à leurs représentants, à leur famille et aux Canadiens où qu'ils soient, nous pouvons cibler nos recherches et améliorer la conception et la prestation de nos programmes pour répondre aux besoins modernes et changeants de nos clients.

Nous planifions deux consultations au début de 2021 qui lanceront officiellement Parlons vétérans. Ces consultations porteront sur l'avenir des activités commémoratives et cibleront des éléments du processus de demande de prestations d'invalidité pour réduire les temps d'attente.

Après chaque consultation, un rapport final ou un résumé sera publié sur Parlons vétérans et indiquera clairement les commentaires que nous avons reçus. Une section pour chaque consultation affichera trois catégories – « Questions », « Réponses », « Actions » – qui décrivent les résultats de la consultation et les mesures que nous avons prises.

Si vous souhaitez aider les vétérans et leur famille, veuillez visiter Parlons vétérans et [inscrivez-vous](#). Le processus d'inscription prend moins de 60 secondes et n'est nécessaire qu'une fois. Une fois inscrit, vous serez automatiquement informé d'une nouvelle consultation et pourrez aussi choisir de recevoir d'autres parutions de ce bulletin par courriel.

(le français suit)

Good day,

On Tuesday, 15 December, Veterans Affairs Canada will be launching Let's Talk

Veterans, a new online consultation tool. Let's Talk Veterans will help drive inclusive, collaborative and transparent public engagement on issues important to Veterans, their families, and the Canadian public.

We will be sending further information in an email tomorrow on how you can explore and engage with this new site. We encourage all Veterans and their families, Veteran representatives, and the Canadian public to register for Let's Talk Veterans and be a part of shaping new services and policies at VAC.

Note: We will be using vac.consultation-consultation.acc@canada.ca to deliver this new information.

Warmest regards,

Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach Team

Veterans Affairs Canada

vac.engagement.acc@canada.ca

Bonjour,

Le mardi 15 décembre, Anciens Combattants Canada lancera Parlons vétérans, un nouvel outil de consultation en ligne. Parlons vétérans contribuera à favoriser une mobilisation du public inclusive, collaborative et transparente sur des enjeux qui sont importants pour les vétérans, leur famille et la population canadienne.

Nous transmettrons demain un courriel contenant d'autres renseignements sur la façon dont vous pouvez explorer ce nouveau site et apporter votre contribution. Nous encourageons tous les vétérans et leur famille ainsi que les représentants de vétérans et la population canadienne à s'inscrire à Parlons vétérans et à contribuer à mettre en place de nouveaux services et de nouvelles politiques à ACC.

Remarque : Nous utiliserons l'adresse vac.consultation-consultation.acc@canada.ca pour transmettre de nouveaux renseignements.

Nos cordiales salutations,

L'équipe de Mobilisation et sensibilisation des intervenants

Anciens Combattants Canada

vac.engagement.acc@canada.ca

Tuberculosis

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This chapter is used to assess impairment resulting from pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The provisions of subsection 35(3) of the Pension Act will determine the assessment of pulmonary tuberculosis in specific cases, as indicated in the legislation, and will be applied in conjunction with subsection 35(1).

Current Legislation

Section 35 (3) of the Pension Act states: Pensions for disability resulting from pulmonary tuberculosis, where during the treatment of a member of the forces the presence of tubercle bacilli has been discovered in the sputum or it has been proved that the disease is moderately advanced and clinically active, shall be awarded and continued as follows:

1. In the case of a member of the forces who served in a theatre of actual war and whose disease was attributable to or was incurred or was aggravated during service, either during World War I or World War II, and in the case of a member of the forces who did not serve in a theatre of

actual war and whose disease was incurred during service during either of those Wars, a pension of one hundred per cent shall be awarded as of the date of completion of the treatment and shall be continued without reduction for a period of two years, unless further treatment is required;

2. In the case of a member of the forces who did not serve in a theatre of actual war and whose disease was aggravated during service, either during World War I or World War II, a pension of ninety per cent shall be awarded as of the date of completion of the treatment and shall be continued without reduction for a period of two years, unless further treatment is required;
3. In the case of a member of the forces who has seen service in the non-permanent active militia or in the reserve army during World War II or in the case of a member of the forces who has seen service in peacetime, whose disease occurred on service and arose out of or was directly connected with that service, a pension of one hundred per cent shall be awarded as of the date of completion of the treatment and shall be continued without reduction for a period of two years, unless further treatment is required;
4. In the case of a member of the forces who has seen service in the non-permanent active militia or in the reserve army during World War II or in the case of a member of the forces who has seen service in peacetime, whose disease was aggravated during service and the aggravation arose out of or was directly connected with that service, a pension of ninety per cent shall be awarded as from the date of completion of the treatment and shall be continued without reduction for a period of two years, unless further treatment is required; and
5. After the expiration of two years, no pension awarded in respect of pulmonary tuberculosis shall be reduced by more than twenty per cent at any one time, nor shall reductions be made at intervals of less than six months, and paragraphs (b) and (d) do not apply if the disease manifested itself within a period of three months after enlistment.

24.01 – For the purposes of Subsection 35(3) of the Pension Act, “treatment” as referred to in this legislation means “hospitalized for the treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis”

24.02 – Pulmonary Tuberculosis (when Subsection 35(3) of the Pension Act does not apply) and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis:

1. Current methods of treatment have greatly reduced the length of hospital treatment and greatly improved the prognosis for maintenance of function and for the protection of close contacts. Nevertheless, any case may present special features which can be considered on their merits.
2. A policy statement, dated 7 September 1972 confirms, extends and defines the practice of making an assessment for non-pulmonary tuberculosis in addition to that made for pulmonary tuberculosis.
3. Following hospital treatment for:
 1. active pulmonary tuberculosis when Subsection 35(3) does not apply; or
 2. non-pulmonary tuberculosis;
 these conditions shall be assessed in accordance with the Table to Article 24.01.

Table to Article 24.01

TREATMENT PERIOD	COVERAGE
First six months after hospital treatment (mandatory review on completion of this period)	100%
Second six months after hospital treatment (mandatory review on completion of this period)	60% minimum
Third six months	30% minimum
Thereafter based on clinical evaluation of the individual	

24.03 – Pulmonary Tuberculosis (when Subsection 35(3) of the Pension Act does not apply due to mode of treatment) and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis:

In cases where the treatment for Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis does not require hospital treatment and treatment is limited to outpatient treatment, the condition will be assessed on the basis of functional loss in accordance with the relevant body system chapter.

24.04 – Pulmonary Tuberculosis – When Subsection 35(3) of the Pension Act applies

1. This article should be read in conjunction with article 35(3) of the VAC Policy Manual.
2. The provisions of subsection 35(3) of the Pension Act will determine the assessment of pulmonary tuberculosis and will be applied as applicable in conjunction with subsection 35(1).
3. An extra-pulmonary condition consequential upon pulmonary tuberculosis, when subsection 35(3) applies, shall be assessed separately and the assessment added to that authorized in subsection 35(3).
4. In its decision of 7 June 1973, the Pension Review Board has said in effect that if there is a disability from a thoracoplasty that is not obviously consequential, it is part of the tuberculosis of the chest and the assessment for the thoracoplasty is to be added to the assessment granted under subsection 35(3). As a result Veterans Affairs will assess all residual deformities under subsection 35(1) provided, however, that when the thoracoplasty procedure involves more than six ribs the residual effects will be assessed at not less than 10%.
5. The effective date of the additional assessment is to be fixed as the date of surgery or the date the level of assessment for pulmonary tuberculosis was reduced to 50%, under the policy in effect prior to 22 December 1976, whichever is the latter.
6. In cases which come to its attention, Veterans Affairs Canada will take action automatically to amend previous decisions which differ from the above policy.

24.05 – Genito-urinary Tuberculosis

Loss of kidney due to tuberculosis 30%

New NATO report recommends more political role for the Western alliance

By Alexandra Brzozowski | EURACTIV.com Dec 1, 2020

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/defence-and-security/news/new-nato-report-recommends-more-political-role-for-the-western-alliance/>

After French President Emmanuel Macron said NATO was suffering “brain death” last year, a report to be published on Tuesday (1 December) on reforming the alliance proposes solutions on how to stay relevant in face of new challenges from Russia and China.

The report “NATO 2030 – United for a New Era”, prepared by a group of so-called ‘wise persons’ since the beginning of this year, contains 138 reform proposals on some 60 pages.

It comes amid growing doubts about the purpose and relevance of the alliance and is to argue NATO alliance should seek a more political role as the linchpin of the West.

According to NATO diplomats, the contents of the report are a ‘riposte’ to Macron’s allegations and a response to ‘legitimate criticism’ over the alliance’s slow adaptation to the future.

NATO 2030 – United for a New Era

This document is the final report of the Reflection Group to the Secretary General. The first part summarises the report, outlines the Group’s vision for NATO in 2030, and provides a condensed version of the Group’s main findings. The second part assesses the main trends that will shape NATO’s environment between now and 2030. The third part provides a more detailed discussion of the recommendations, organised thematically according to each of the three objectives given to the Group by the Secretary General. The analysis and recommendations offered herein are intended to inform the Secretary General’s deliberations in the lead-up to the meeting of NATO Leaders in 2021, when he will conclude the Reflection Process by

offering recommendations for strengthening NATO's political dimension to Allied Heads of State and Governments.

https://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/2020/12/pdf/201201-Reflection-Group-Final-Report-Uni.pdf

NATO enters the eighth decade of its existence with both a longer record of success and a wider assortment of looming challenges than its founders could have foreseen when they signed the Washington Treaty in April 1949. In the thirty years since the collapse of the Soviet threat that called NATO into existence, the Western Alliance has defied innumerable predictions of its imminent demise. It ended two wars and ethnic cleansing in the Western Balkans, extended the hand of partnership to Russia and other former adversaries, stepped up to the threat of terrorism directed against NATO territory, engaged abroad including in Afghanistan, and responded with clarity, unity, and resolve to the threat posed by Russian aggression in the Euro-Atlantic region. Today, NATO stands as history's most successful alliance, encompassing nearly a billion people and half of global GDP across a space that stretches from the Pacific coast of North America to the Black Sea.

[Captain Nichola Goddard Game Changer Award 2018](https://www.cmcen-rcmce.ca/wp-content/uploads/captainnicholagoddard.pdf)

[cmcen-rcmce.ca/wp-content/uploads/captainnicholagoddard.pdf](https://www.cmcen-rcmce.ca/wp-content/uploads/captainnicholagoddard.pdf)

- **Beacon of Hope contest supporting veterans**

This morning we are reaching out on behalf of one of our members. John Bathurst has entered a Beacon of Hope contest supporting veterans in need of a new roof for their homes. John is among the top five applications that have been chosen and now we get the chance to vote. Top prize for the contest is a new roof for their home while three runners up will receive a cash prize of \$2,500. Voting is open from 14 December 2020 to 6 January 2021.

Please show your support and head on over and vote today!

<https://go.becn.com/beaconofhopecanada/vote>

To see John's story and that of the other contestants, please visit:

<https://go.becn.com/beaconofhopecanada/finalists>

You can also watch a personal message from John: "Bathurst Homestead" https://youtu.be/WlfV3vj_jB4 on YouTube.

On behalf of the NCR Chapter Congratulations, John and good luck!

Bonjour Chapitre du NCR,

Nous vous contactons ce matin au nom d'un de nos membres. John Bathurst est un participant du concours Beacon of Hope pour aider les anciens combattants qui ont besoin d'un nouveau toit pour leur maison. John fait partie des cinq meilleures candidatures qui ont été choisies et nous pouvons maintenant l'aider en votant. Le premier prix du concours est un nouveau toit pour leur maison et trois des finalistes recevront un prix en argent de 2 500 \$. Le vote est ouvert du 14 décembre 2020 au 6 janvier 2021.

Montrez votre support et votez aujourd'hui!

<https://go.becn.com/beaconofhopecanada/vote>

Pour voir l'histoire de John et celle des autres candidats, veuillez visiter: <https://go.becn.com/beaconofhopecanada/finalists> (en anglais seulement)

Vous pouvez également regarder un message personnel de John: "Bathurst Homestead" https://youtu.be/WlfV3vj_jB4 sur YouTube. (en anglais seulement)

Au nom du chapitre de la NCR, félicitations, John et bonne chance!

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THE ORDER OF ST GEORGE

[OStG Newsletter Vol1 Dec20.pdf \(orderstgeorge.ca\)](#)

Attached is the December 2020 Branch Newsletter in Word and PDF Format. Also please visit our branch website to also view the branch newsletter.

Branch Website - www.legion593.com

Canada's first female general was a trailblazer for women in the military, Sheila Hellstrom (1935-2020)

[OBIT: Canada's first female general was a trailblazer for women in the military, Sheila Hellstrom \(1935-2020\) | Ottawa Sun](#)

IN THE NEWS

[Canadian military creates 'Operation Vector' to help with coronavirus vaccine rollout](#)

[George Borden, champion of Black Canadian military history, has died](#)

[Canadian Rangers will help with Manitoba First Nation's COVID-19 outbreak](#)

[COVID-19 : les militaires préparent un éventuel déploiement dans les Prairies](#)

[Marine combat engineer in Japan adapts runway repair kits to meet new Corps doctrine](#)

[The Parachute Sapper Squad, a key element of air-to-ground coordination in the Spanish Armed Forces](#)

[Turkish sappers begin mine clearing in liberated territories of Azerbaijan](#)

[Des Canadiens reconnus pour leur engagement exceptionnel envers les vétérans](#)

[Le bon chef d'orchestre pour la planification de la vaccination](#)

[Royal Canadian Engineers constructing the future in Latvia](#)

[CJOC Commendation Awards to WO Pouliot and Sgt Bedard](#)

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[Engineers Soldier On](#)

