

Media Report 23Oct 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.

NVOC Presidents Message 20 October 2020.

Fellow Directors and all Members – we are all living through Pandemic times that prevent our interactions socially. Our Past President [Gord Jenkins] and I talk often. He is wise, and a very experienced soldier – Service Corps. I repeat one of his thoughts on communicating with each other. BUDDY CHECKS -

- People are desperate for human contact. Phone calls are the best we can do other than impersonal emails. Why not quietly have a list of NVOC "callers: This is happening now informally. I get a call from some of our members every several days. A "Sanity check call " they call it".
- The Buddy Check program is a way for veterans, military members and their families to stay connected and engaged. For NVOC this is giving each other a call. I have had two members call me "out of the Blue" to ask me about my service. The calls were not adversarial – I did not know them before the call. We did know each other a bit better after the call.

My message to all of us is to pick up the telephone and call a fellow veteran – she might enjoy talking about life in the military that was once shared. This pandemic is opportunity for us to reach fellow veterans without a reason. A "cold call" to a fellow vet might well be a pleasure for both ends of the phone!

War Veterans Allowance

About this program

The WVA can help you meet your basic financial needs. It is a tax-free monthly payment which can vary based on your sources of income, marital status and if you have dependents.

If you qualify for this allowance you can also access emergency funding through the Assistance Fund which provides grants of up to \$1,000 (per calendar year) to help pay for an unexpected issue that affects your health or safety.

Information for families

Survivors (spouses, common-law partners and dependent children) will continue to receive the WVA after the qualified Veteran has passed away

Do you qualify?

Eligibility is based on your war-time service, income and Canadian residency.

You must meet the eligibility requirements in each of the following areas:

War-time service

- A Veteran (including Merchant Navy) or Allied Veteran of the Second World War or the Korean War; and
- [Certain civilians](#) who served in the Second World War.

Residency

All applicants must live in Canada at the time of application.

If you are an Allied Veteran you must also have:

- lived in Canada prior to your enlistment with an Allied Force; or
- lived in Canada for a total of 10 years (does not have to be consecutive) since your military service.

Income

- WVA is an income-tested benefit and most regular income must be considered.
- Income is assessed using the same standard for the [Guaranteed Income Supplement](#), which is based on the Income Tax Act.
- Annual income exemptions, such as the casual earnings exemption and the interest exemption, are considered at the time of your assessment.

How to apply

Apply online

If you are registered for My VAC Account, you can submit your application for this benefit online. If you aren't registered, you can [register now](#).

Mail or in person

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

- Application for War Veterans allowance
- Allied Veteran application for War Veterans Allowance

Get help with your application

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

Additional information

The [War Veterans Allowance](#) rate is adjusted quarterly based on the Consumer Price Index.

Find out more

If you and your spouse/common-law partner are both Veterans or qualified civilians, you should apply individually for the single rate of WVA.

Survivors

When a recipient dies, their survivor will continue to receive their full allowance amount for one year. In the following year, you will then receive the War Veterans Allowance at the single rate, plus additional amounts for dependents, if you have any.

Related Programs

[Assistance Fund](#): Quick access to funds for urgent needs such as food, shelter or medical expenses.

[Treatment benefits](#): Coverage for medical and health related services.

[Long-term Care](#): Monthly payments to cover the cost of your long-term care.

[Veterans Independence Program](#): Payments for home and health care services that you need to remain independent at home.

[Funeral and burial assistance](#): A reimbursement of costs to ensure Veterans have a dignified funeral and burial.

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](#).

Is WVA payable outside Canada?

To qualify to receive WVA while you are outside of Canada, you must already be in receipt of WVA and you must have lived in Canada for a minimum of 12 months.

A short absence (e.g. a vacation) typically has no impact. However, if you are planning to be away from Canada for an extended period, please [contact us](#) to ensure we can process any changes to your account (e.g. a new mailing address) in a timely manner.

For Allied Veterans:

We cannot provide WVA to you while you are outside of Canada due to legislative restrictions.

If accepted for WVA, will I qualify for any other programs?

Once you qualify for WVA, you may also qualify for other benefits such as the [Assistance Fund](#), [Treatment benefits](#) and the [Veterans Independence Program](#). Please see the [Related Program](#) section for more information.

Where can I find the policies for this program?

Read more about the [War Veterans Allowance](#) policies for Veterans.

[The ceremonial First Poppy Presentation by the Governor General](#)

Good Afternoon,

As you are all aware the current pandemic and the health rules surrounding it have resulted in many things being adapted or cancelled. For the ceremonial First Poppy Presentation by the Governor General this event has been adapted to a virtual format in order to not only meet the health directives but to also protect our most vulnerable.

As of 1:00 PM today (16 Oct 20) the First Poppy virtual presentation will be launched at <https://www.legion.ca/news/articles/2020/10/16/first-poppy-presented-to-canada-s-governor-general>. We invite you to watch the presentation and relay to your comrades as you see fit.

Hopefully in 2021 the 2020 restrictions will be a thing of the past and we can again come together as Veterans for an in person presentation.

Sincerely,

The Royal Canadian Legion – National Headquarters

Le siège de La Légion royale canadienne

86 Aird Place, Ottawa, K2L 0A1

Lawsuit accuses Veterans Affairs of failing to tell eligible veterans about benefits

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/veterans-affairs-benefits-lawsuit-bruyea-1.5768433>

Feds sending legions millions, maybe enough to keep their doors open

The Royal Canadian Legion is slated to get an influx of funding that could save hundreds of Branches from permanent closure.

“We are pleased and thankful to know that Legion Branches are on the verge of receiving some much-needed financial help,” The Royal Canadian Legion’s Dominion President Thomas Irvine told CTV News.

Read the article ›

Sweden embarks on its largest military build-up for decades [from the “Economist”]

The threat from Russia prompts a bill to raise defence spending by 40% in five years

https://www.economist.com/europe/2020/10/19/sweden-embarks-on-its-largest-military-build-up-for-decades?utm_campaign=the-economist-today&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_source=salesforce-marketing-cloud&utm_term=2020-10-20&utm_content=article-link-2&etear=nl_today_2

Fwd: VAC Virtual Series: LGBTQ2+ Veterans Roundtable / Série de rencontres virtuelles d’ACC : table ronde avec les vétérans des communauté LGBTQ2+

Dear Stakeholders and Advisory Group members,

We invite you to join the latest in our series of virtual events: a roundtable discussion with the LGBTQ2+ Veteran community on October 21, 2020 at from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Eastern time. It is my pleasure to invite you to join the live webcast. If you have not yet registered, you may do so by clicking [here](#).

Rainbow Veterans of Canada, the LGBT Purge Fund, the Canadian Armed Forces and the Office of Women and LGBTQ2 Veterans will participate in this virtual event. Following the presentations, we will have a question and answer period with senior leaders of Veterans Affairs Canada.

Thank you to all those who have participated in Veterans Affairs Canada's virtual series, which has included panel discussions with leaders from Veterans Affairs Canada, Women and Gender Equality Canada and the Canadian Armed Forces/Department of National Defence. Throughout the series, we heard the latest in research and data as well as insights on policy and service delivery regarding ongoing work to improve outcomes for women Veterans. We are continuing our engagement with you during the roundtable discussion as it relates to the LGBTQ2+ Veteran community.

Recordings of the entire series are available on our website at [Women and LGBTQ2+ Veteran Engagement](#).

We welcome your questions at our upcoming LGBTQ2+ Veterans Roundtable. You can submit questions via the registration website or by e-mailing vac.engagement.acc@canada.ca. Please contact us if you have difficulty registering or if you have other questions about this event.

Sincerely,

Lawrence MacAulay, PC, MP

Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence

Chers intervenants et membres des groupes consultatifs,

Nous vous invitons à participer à notre toute dernière série d'activités virtuelles : une table ronde avec les vétérans LGBTQ2+ le 21 octobre 2020 de 11 h à 12 h 30 (heure de l'Est). J'ai le plaisir de vous inviter à joindre la webémission en direct. Si vous n'êtes pas encore inscrit, vous pouvez le faire en cliquant [ici](#).

Cette activité virtuelle regroupera des membres de Vétérans Arc-En-Ciel du Canada, du Fonds Purge LGBT, des Forces armées canadiennes et du Bureau de la condition féminine et des vétérans LGBTQ2. Après les présentations, nous aurons une période de questions et réponses avec les hauts dirigeants d'Anciens Combattants Canada.

Je remercie tous ceux qui ont pris part à la série de rencontres virtuelles d'Anciens Combattants Canada, qui comportait des discussions en groupe avec de hauts fonctionnaires d'Anciens Combattants Canada, de Femmes et Égalité des genres Canada et des Forces armées canadiennes/du ministère de la Défense nationale. Tout au long de la série, nous avons entendu les dernières recherches et données ainsi qu'un aperçu sur les politiques et la prestation de services concernant les travaux en cours pour améliorer les résultats pour les femmes vétérans. Nous poursuivons notre engagement avec vous pendant la table ronde en ce qui concerne la communauté des vétérans LGBTQ2+.

Les enregistrements de la série complète se trouvent sur notre site Web à la page [Engagement des femmes vétérans et des vétérans LGBTQ2+](#).

N'hésitez pas à poser des questions à notre prochaine table ronde des vétérans LGBTQ2+. Vous pouvez soumettre vos questions sur le site Web à la page d'inscription ou en envoyant un courriel à l'adresse vac.engagement.acc@canada.ca. Veuillez communiquer avec nous si vous avez de la difficulté à vous inscrire ou si vous avez d'autres questions sur cette activité.

Sincères salutations,

Lawrence MacAulay, C.P., député

Ministre des Anciens Combattants et ministre associé de la Défense nationale

[Attached is the October 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

Please note that the branch still needs volunteers for this Poppy Campaign.

Poppy Campaign starts on October 30th, 2020

IN THE NEWS

[Commemorating the beginning of the Battle of Scheldt](#)

[WWII 'earthquake' bomb explodes during effort to defuse it in Poland](#)

CFFCA holds closing ceremony to honour first CAF-ACE course

Covid 19: la Légion royale canadienne recommande de ne pas assister en personne aux cérémonies du jour du Souvenir

Canadian Armed Forces conduct exercise 'Ready Posture' in Mountain View

U.S. army engineers use 1950s breaching tech; robots might solve the problem

The Pentagon wants to send cargo rockets around the world in minutes — with Elon Musk's help

Army's do-it-all goggles to reach soldiers' hands in 2021

Les ex-pilotes de l'ARC de retour au bercail