

Media Report 17 April 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. When a disability pensioner dies, if he or she was pensioned at 5% or greater, the survivor will continue to receive (for a period of one year). Educational assistance for children provides tax-free financial support to a student enrolled in a full-time post-secondary education program. Rehabilitation services and local Media Articles

- From: Engagement (VAC/ACC) < vac.engagement.acc@canada.ca >
Date: Wed, Apr 15, 2020 at 3:43 PM
Subject: COVID-19 Economic Response Plan / Le Plan d'intervention économique du Canada pour répondre à la COVID-19
To: Engagement (VAC/ACC) < vac.engagement.acc@canada.ca >

(Le français suit l'anglais)

Dear Stakeholders and Advisory Groups Members;

As the situation around COVID-19 continues to evolve, I want to share information on the actions underway by the Government of Canada to help individual Canadians and businesses facing hardship as a result of the pandemic. Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan, available [here](#), lists the supports that may be available to you or your members.

For those of you who operate as a charity or non-profit, I would draw your attention to the "support for business" section of the Economic Response Plan, as you may be eligible for supports, including through the Temporary Wage Subsidy for employers. We thank you for your patience and understanding during these times. The best way to reach Veterans Affairs Canada continues to be through My VAC Account secure messaging, or by calling us at 1-866-522-2022. Most of our employees are now working remotely where they are answering calls, making decisions and issuing payments. We continue to work towards making these processes as efficient and timely as possible.

The [Veterans Affairs Canada website](#) and social media channels continue to be updated with the latest information, and I encourage you to check back often. Thank you for all you do to support Veterans and their families.

Lawrence MacAulay

Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence

Chers intervenants et membres du groupe consultatif,

Alors que la situation autour de la COVID-19 continue d'évoluer, je souhaite communiquer des renseignements sur les mesures entreprises par le gouvernement du Canada pour venir en aide aux particuliers et aux entreprises aux prises avec des difficultés en raison de la pandémie. Le Plan d'intervention économique du Canada pour répondre à la COVID-19 est disponible [ici](#). Ce plan énumère les soutiens offerts qui pourraient être disponibles pour vous ou vos membres.

Pour ceux d'entre vous qui exercent des activités caritatives ou à but non lucratif, j'attire votre attention sur la section « Soutien aux entreprises » du Plan d'intervention économique, car vous pourriez être admissible à des mesures de soutien y compris par la Subvention salariale d'urgence temporaire offerte aux employeurs.

Nous vous remercions de votre patience et de votre compréhension pendant ces moments difficiles. Le meilleur moyen de nous joindre est toujours par la messagerie sécurisée du service Mon dossier ACC ou par l'intermédiaire de la ligne téléphonique au 1-866-522-2022. La plupart de nos employés travaillent maintenant à distance où ils répondent à des appels, prennent des décisions et effectuent des paiements. Nous continuons de travailler à rendre ces processus aussi efficaces et opportuns que possible.

[Le site Web d'Anciens Combattants Canada](#) et les canaux de médias sociaux continueront d'être mis à jour avec les plus récents renseignements et je vous encourage à consulter souvent.

Merci pour tout ce que vous faites pour soutenir les vétérans et leurs familles.

Lawrence MacAulay

Ministre des Anciens Combattants et ministre associé de la Défense nationale

Capt Moore, He's a WWII Vet who will be 100 years old on April 30.he's raised the equivalent of over \$18 million Canadian!

He decided he'd walk laps of his garden – 10 laps a day – for a total of 100 laps, with the idea of raising 1000 pounds (about \$1800 Canadian) for the NHS.

Tomorrow, he'll walk the final 10 laps to get to 100 laps, but he said he'll keep on walking laps as long as people continue to give.

As of now, he's raised the equivalent of over \$18 million Canadian!

The article below is not up-to-date with the total donated.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tomswalkforthenhs>

<http://www.uexchange.ca/>

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/tvandshowbiz/11400103/piers-morgan-captain-tom-moore-99-knighthood-nhs/>

Benefits for Survivors (of Disability Pension Recipients)

Continuation of Disability Pension

When a disability pensioner dies, if he or she was pensioned at 5% or greater, the survivor will continue to receive (for a period of one year) the same [Disability Pension](#) or Prisoner of War compensation that was being paid to the pensioner. This includes any Attendance Allowance and/or Exceptional Incapacity Allowance the pensioner was receiving at the time of death. After this one year period, a survivor's pension will be automatically paid.

Survivor's Pension

A survivor's pension will be paid to the survivor of a disability pensioner commencing one year from the time of death. The pensioner's benefits continue in full for the first year.

If the pensioner was receiving a pension of 48% or greater, the survivor is entitled to a full survivor's pension. If the pensioner was receiving a pension between the 5% and 47% rate, the survivor will receive one-half of the Disability Pension that was paid to the pensioner.

Surviving spouses/surviving common-law partners who remarry will continue to receive the survivor's pension. Children and other qualified dependents may also qualify for benefits following a pensioner's death. Please contact us for more information.

Education Assistance Program

If you are a child of a deceased Veteran or Canadian Armed Forces member or Veteran, you may receive financial assistance for post-secondary education if your parent:

- died as a result of military service;
- or
- had received a disability benefit of 48% or greater at the time of death.

To qualify, you must enter the program before you turn 25 years of age. This assistance cannot be extended beyond the year in which you turn 30. This support may be provided for four years or 36 academic months, whichever is less.

For more information on any of the above programs or to apply please [contact us](#).

Related Links

- [Career Impact Allowance](#)
- [Disability Benefits](#)
 - [Disability Pension](#)
 - [Benefits for Survivors](#)
 - [Disability Award](#)
 - [Benefits for Survivors](#)
 - [Exceptional Incapacity Allowance](#)
 - [Related Allowances](#)
 - Applying for Benefits
 - [Step 1 – Get an Application Form](#)
 - [Step 2 – What You Need to Apply](#)
 - [Step 3 – Submit Your Application](#)
 - [How Benefits are Determined](#)
 - [Table of Disabilities](#)
 - [1995 Table of Disabilities](#)
 - [Entitlement Eligibility Guidelines](#)
 - [Medical Questionnaires](#)
 - [Service Health Records for Disability Benefit Application](#)
- [Who Can Help?](#)
- [Reviews and Appeals](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Service Delivery](#)

Did you find what you were looking for?

You can also do a [search](#) or [contact us](#) at 1-866-522-2122 (toll-free) Monday to Friday, 8:30 to 4:30, local time.

Living outside of Canada?

Monday to Friday, 8:30 to 4:30, EST

United States 1-888-996-2242 (toll-free)

Any other country 00-800-996-22421 (toll-free)

Educational assistance for children

Educational assistance for children provides tax-free financial support to a student enrolled in a full-time post-secondary education program. We can provide this funding for up to four calendar years or 36 academic months, whichever comes first.

Educational assistance includes costs such as:

- tuition
- books/course materials
- registration fees
- exam fees
- student activity fees
- lab, field or course fees
- instrument rentals
- library fees
- information technology fees
- fees for registration in professional organizations, associations or societies

The funding also includes a basic monthly allowance. We adjust the allowance annually based on the cost of living index.

Do you qualify?

As the child of a deceased Veteran or Canadian Armed Forces member you should apply for Educational assistance if your parent:

- died as a result of their military service, or
- when they died, they were receiving a disability benefit, assessed at 48% or more.

Age limits

You must enter into a full-time educational program prior to your 25th birthday. This assistance can only be provided until the academic year in which you turn 30 years old.

How to apply

We recommend that you make an application before the start of your academic year since this assistance is only available from the date of your application.

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.

Get help with your application

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

Additional information

Find out more

This funding can only continue while you remain in a full-time course of study.

You must also re-apply each year to confirm that you are continuing in your full-time program.

Related programs

[Income Replacement Benefit for survivors and children](#): A monthly payment for eligible survivors and orphans of a deceased CAF member or Veteran.

Frequently asked questions

Does VAC send me money directly?

The basic monthly allowance is provided directly to you. For costs related to your post-secondary education we will send money to the academic institution or to you.

I received a scholarship from my university. Will that affect how much I receive through the Educational Assistance program?

If your scholarship, award, grant or bursary is paid directly to your institution of study, it will be applied against your total tuition fees, reducing the costs that VAC covers. Your monthly allowance, however, will not be reduced.

If I take time off from school, can I reapply to this program when I return?

Yes, but you can only reapply if you are under the age of 30.

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](#).

Are there policies for this program?

Yes. Read more about the [Educational Assistance policies](#).

85% of Canadian troops ordered into isolation to prepare for COVID-19 operations

Global News

Nearly 60,000 of Canada's 68,000 troops are now in isolation in advance of COVID-19 operations, Canada's top soldier says. Many of them have been ordered to do so to be ready to deploy across Canada to assist civil authorities to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, said Gen. Jon Vance said in an interview recently with Global News. [READ MORE](#)

Pandemic no excuse to not remember Battle of Vimy Ridge 103 years later

Red Deer News Now

In the House of Commons on Saturday, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau evoked memories of the fight put up by Canadian forces at the Battle of Vimy Ridge which took place exactly 103 years ago. The WWI battle was waged from April 9-12, 1917, with just shy of 3,600 Canadians making the ultimate sacrifice, and approximately 7,000 being wounded. "We remember their courage and sacrifice," Trudeau said, in addition to a statement on Friday which read in part, "Canadians remember who they were, what they stood for, and the history they defined." [READ MORE](#)

103e anniversaire de la bataille de la crête de Vimy

45e Nord

Il y a 103 ans, durant la Première Guerre mondiale, le Corps canadien a avancé sur les positions défensives allemandes sur la crête de Vimy dans le nord de la France. Les Canadiens ont lancé l'assaut tôt le lundi de Pâques, le 9 avril 1917, une première vague de Canadiens avançant derrière un barrage roulant. Même si cette tactique d'artillerie assurait un certain couvert, nos soldats étaient quand même exposés à des tirs de mitrailleuses ennemies. [LIRE PLUS](#)

COVID-19 prompts purchase of new medical transportation

[system for RCAF aircraft](#)

Ottawa Citizen

The Canadian Forces is hoping to purchase what it is calling an aeromedical bio-containment evacuation system that can be outfitted on its C-17 or C-130J aircraft. The equipment, also known as ABES, will be capable of transporting highly infectious disease patients on the aircraft. The Royal Canadian Air Force is looking to have these delivered to 8 Wing Trenton, Ontario by Oct. 31, 2020, said Department of National Defence spokesman Dan LeBouthillier. [READ MORE](#)

[COVID-19 : les limites de l'équipement d'évacuation du Canada](#)

Radio-Canada

La Défense nationale cherche à acquérir des systèmes de confinement pour permettre l'évacuation par avion de plusieurs patients atteints de la COVID-19. Alors que certains pays ont déjà pris les devants, la tâche du Canada s'annonce ardue. En plein milieu de la crise, les Forces armées canadiennes donnent l'impression d'être en mode rattrapage. Dans un appel d'offres publié la semaine dernière, la Défense nationale indique vouloir se doter "d'une capacité permanente pour l'évacuation sanitaire aérienne de patients porteurs d'une maladie très infectieuse". [LIRE PLUS](#)

[Canadian military intelligence unit issued warning about Wuhan outbreak back in January](#)

CBC News

A small, specialized unit within the Canadian military's intelligence branch began producing detailed warnings and analysis about the emergence of the deadly novel coronavirus in Wuhan, China in early January, CBC News has learned. The medical intelligence (MEDINT) cell within Canadian Forces Intelligence Command (CFINTCOM) is tucked away on the edges of the country's security and defence establishment. [READ MORE](#)

[Vehicles for Canada's largest military training exercise roll through greater Sudbury](#)

CTV News

Hardware set for use in Canada's largest military exercise, were returning to home bases across the country, after the operation was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 'Maple Resolve' would have seen 4,000 soldiers and 1,450 vehicles participate in the military exercise from May 11 – 24 at the Canadian Forces Base in Wainwright, AB. [READ MORE](#)

[COVID-19: 400 soldats canadiens rentrent de l'Irak](#)

Le Journal de Montréal

Environ 400 membres des Forces armées canadiennes déployés en Irak sont de retour au Canada en raison de la suspension des activités militaires au pays dû à la COVID-19. À cause de la propagation du coronavirus, les Forces de sécurité irakiennes (FSI) ont été contraintes de suspendre leurs activités d'instruction tandis qu'une pause opérationnelle est maintenant observée par la Coalition mondiale contre Daech et par la mission de l'OTAN en Irak (NMI). [LIRE PLUS](#)

[Last landmine cleared from biblical Jordan Valley site](#)

The National

After more than 50 years frozen in time, one of the world's holiest of places, where the baptism of Jesus Christ is believed to have taken place, has finally been cleared of all landmines. For thousands of years it had attracted pilgrims and worshippers from across the globe but following the 1967 Arab-Israeli War it was left abandoned and littered in landmines. A campaign launched by charity the Halo Trust in 2014 has seen thousands of mines cleared from the site which sits on the River Jordan in Qaser al-Yahud. [READ MORE](#)