

Media Report 05 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

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	
77.76%	73.78%	88.89%	84.33%	
+0.06%	+0.11%	+0.07%	+0.13%	
Total doses administered	First doses	Second doses	Third+ doses	Received doses administered
58,368,822	29,733,600	28,209,644	425,578	88.97%
+79,202	+24,732	+43,364	+11,106	+0.12%

Remembrance Day 2021

Remembrance Day is observed in Canada (and other Commonwealth nations, which include 53 member states, nearly all of them former territories of the British Empire) on November 11. It carries much of the same meaning as America's Veterans Day. Celebrated since the end of WWI, Remembrance Day actually marks Armistice Day — the day on which the hostilities between the Allies and Germany ceased on the Western Front. Canada has declared that the date is of "remembrance for the men and women who have served, and continue to serve our country during times of war, conflict and peace," particularly the First and Second World Wars, the Korean War, and all conflicts since then in which members of the Canadian Armed Forces have participated..In May 2000, the remains of an unidentified Canadian soldier who died in France during World War I were laid in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the National War Memorial. More than 2,300,000 Canadians have served throughout Canada's history to maintain peace and security. We will Remember them.

Randy Stowell, CD
National President

NATO Veterans Organization of Canada.

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE SPECIAL REPORT Paul Maddison is director of the
UNSW Defence Research Institute.

From Australia Interesting article by retired Diplomat and former Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy. Vice-Admiral (ret'd) Paul Maddison, CMM, MSM, CD.

Top defence expertise flows from Australian universities (Read more <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/special-reports/top-defence-expertise-flows-from-australian-universities/news-story/01d4ee908a3ad3ad4e3a91ff32f26ac5>)

The US military has recently, and remarkably, named China as the “pacing challenge” against which they must plan their military strategy and capability investment. Russia is named next as a “near-peer” threat.

The same focus is evident in Australian policy, particularly the Defence Strategy Update and Force Structure Plan promulgated in 2020. Australia has dedicated \$270bn over the next decade to generate new seabed-to-space capabilities for the Australian Defence Force that will enable mission success in operations ranging from information warfare to long-range strike.

There is a sense of strategic urgency in Australia that is gaining momentum.

NATO NEWS AND THOUGHTS [From SHELLDRAKE] 5 November 2021

NATO Secretary General at the UN Climate Change Conference. He will take part in the High-level roundtable "Climate, Peace and Stability: Weathering Risk Through COP and Beyond", co-hosted by Germany, Luxembourg and Nauru. During his trip, the Secretary General will also meet with international leaders, high-level policy-makers and officials. More information can be found on the web pages of COP26 (<https://ukcop26.org/>) and the High-level roundtable. (<https://german-climate-pavilion.de/login>). Learn more about goals...

1. Secure global net zero by mid-century and keep 1.5 degrees within reach.

2. Adapt to protect communities and natural habitats.

3. Mobilise finance

4. Work together to deliver

https://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/2021/10/pdf/2110-russia-top5-myths-en.pdf

Russia's top five myths about NATO

Myth 1: NATO is not interested in real dialogue with Russia

Fact: We regret Russia's decision to suspend the work of its diplomatic mission to NATO, and of NATO's Military Liaison Office in Moscow, and to close down

NATO's Information Office in Moscow. Myth 2: NATO ignores proposal to move military exercises away from the "contact line" between NATO and Russian forces

Fact: There is no "contact line" between NATO and Russian forces – but internationally recognised borders of NATO Allies.

NATO's deployments on Allied territory are defensive, proportionate and in line with our international commitments.

Our enhanced forward presence in the eastern part of our Alliance is not meant to provoke a conflict but to prevent a conflict.

It is a response to Russia's use of military force against its neighbours and its military build-up in the Baltic region and beyond. Myth 3: Ukraine cannot join NATO

Fact: NATO Allies welcome Ukraine's aspirations to join NATO and they stand by the decision made at the 2008 Bucharest

Summit that Ukraine will become a member of the Alliance.

Decisions regarding NATO membership are up to each individual applicant and the 30 NATO Allies. Russia has no right to

intervene and cannot veto such a process. Myth 4: NATO rejects Russia's arms control proposals

Fact: Russia's proposal for a moratorium on the deployment of ground-launched

intermediate and short-range missiles in Europe is not a credible offer. It disregards the reality on the ground. The reality is that there are no new US missiles in Europe, but there are new Russian missiles in Europe – the SSC-8. Myth 5: NATO is encircling and trying to contain Russia
Fact: NATO is a defensive alliance, whose purpose is to protect our member states. Our exercises and military deployments are not directed against Russia – or any other country,
Thank you Randy S.

Pension indexing rate for 2022

At the end of each year, the Treasury Board Secretariat provides the National Association of Federal Retirees with information on the pension indexing increase that is effective Jan. 1 for federal public sector pensions.

The pension indexation rate effective Jan. 1, 2022, is 2.4 per cent.

While inflation has increased rapidly in the last few months — the indexation calculation includes the average increase over the past year, including late 2020 when the CPI increased at a slower rate.

[For additional information and resources, visit our website.](#)

Transferring retiring allowances (severance pay)

This is an amount you receive on or after retirement from an office or employment in recognition of long service. It includes payment for unused sick leave and amounts you receive for loss of office or employment, whether as a payment of damages or a payment under an order or judgment of a tribunal.

Topics

- [Eligible part](#)
- [Non-eligible part](#)

Forms and publications

- [Income Tax Folio S2-F1-C2, Retiring Allowances](#)
- [Guide T4040, RRSPs and Other Registered Plans for Retirement](#)

Veterans Independence Program

[Veterans Independence Program – Veterans Affairs Canada](#)

[Additional Pain and Suffering compensation – Veterans Affairs Canada](#)

[OSI Connect – Mobile Applications – Stay Connected – Veterans Affairs Canada](#)

[How to review or appeal a decision – Veterans' rights – Veterans Affairs Canada](#)

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](#)

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](#)

IN THE NEWS

[39 CER, and 191, 192 CEF featured in this month's Totem Times](#)

[emembrance Day Sentry Program selection announced, including Cpl Justin George from 1 CER](#)

[À Iqaluit, les militaires vont déployer leur deuxième unité de purification d'eau](#)

[Military arrives in Iqaluit to set up reverse osmosis water purification](#)

[Après l'Afghanistan, la guerre en soi](#)

[Edmonton ATCO Veterans Village: Homes for homeless veterans](#)

[Corps begins fielding remotely operated underwater EOD vehicle](#)

[Tout ce qu'il faut savoir sur les canons à Québec](#)

[Boxer 8x8 armored vehicle in Bridge Layer configuration able to launch 22 and 14 meters bridge](#)