

Media Report 05 April 2024

This weeks media reports will cover and answer great questions veterans are still asking 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's 75th Anniversary

In 2024, NATO celebrates 75 years of collective defence.

Since its creation on 4 April 1949, the transatlantic Alliance has grown from 12 founding members to 32 member countries, all working together to keep our people safe. A community of Allies bound together by common values of democracy, individual liberty, human rights and the rule of law, NATO celebrates its anniversary on 4 April at NATO Headquarters in Brussels and at the upcoming summit on 9-11 July in Washington, D.C., where its founding treaty was signed.

Discover NATO's past through the voices of those who witnessed historic moments first-hand. In podcast episodes, feature stories and a documentary, they share their unique perspectives on how NATO has evolved over more than seven decades – while maintaining its core mission of protecting its members from any threat. <https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/224100.htm>

A short history of NATO

It is often said that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization was founded in response to the threat posed by the Soviet Union. This is only partially true. In fact, the Alliance's creation was part of a broader effort to serve three purposes: deterring Soviet expansionism, forbidding the revival of nationalist militarism in Europe through a strong North American presence on the continent, and encouraging European political integration.

The aftermath of World War II saw much of Europe devastated in a way that is now difficult to envision. Approximately 36.5 million Europeans had died in the conflict, 19 million of them civilians. Refugee camps and rationing dominated daily life. In some areas, infant mortality rates were one in four. Millions of orphans wandered the burnt-out shells of former metropolises. In the German city of Hamburg alone, half a million people were homeless.

In addition, Communists aided by the Soviet Union were threatening elected governments across Europe. In February 1948, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, with covert backing from the Soviet Union, overthrew the democratically elected government in that country. Then, in reaction to the democratic consolidation of West Germany, the Soviets blockaded Allied-

controlled West Berlin in a bid to consolidate their hold on the German capital. The heroism of the Berlin Airlift provided future Allies with some solace, but privation remained a grave threat to freedom and stability.

A treaty for our age

Fortunately, by then the United States had turned its back on its traditional policy of diplomatic isolationism. Aid provided through the US-funded Marshall Plan (also known as the European Recovery Program) and other means fostered a degree of economic stabilisation. European states still needed confidence in their security, however, before they would begin talking and trading with each other. Military cooperation, and the security it would bring, would have to develop in parallel with economic and political progress.

With this in mind, several Western European democracies came together to implement various projects for greater military cooperation and collective defence, including the creation of the Western Union in 1948, later to become the Western European Union in 1954. In the end, it was determined that only a truly transatlantic security agreement could deter Soviet aggression while simultaneously preventing the revival of European militarism and laying the groundwork for political integration.

Accordingly, after much discussion and debate, the North Atlantic Treaty was signed on 4 April, 1949. In the Treaty's renowned Article 5, the new Allies agreed "an armed attack against one or more of them... shall be considered an attack against them all" and that following such an attack, each Ally would take "such action as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force" in response. Significantly, Articles 2 and 3 of the Treaty had important purposes not immediately germane to the threat of attack. Article 3 laid the foundation for cooperation in military preparedness between the Allies, and Article 2 allowed them some leeway to engage in non-military cooperation.

While the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty had created Allies, it had not created a military structure that could effectively coordinate their actions. This changed when growing worries about Soviet intentions culminated in the Soviet detonation of an atomic bomb in 1949 and in the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950. The effect upon the Alliance was dramatic. NATO soon gained a consolidated command structure with a military Headquarters based in the Parisian suburb of Rocquencourt, near Versailles. This was Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, or SHAPE, with US General Dwight D. Eisenhower as the first Supreme Allied Commander Europe, or SACEUR. Soon afterward, the Allies established a permanent civilian secretariat in Paris, and named NATO's first Secretary General, Lord Ismay of the United Kingdom.

With the benefit of aid and a security umbrella, political stability was gradually restored to Western Europe and the post-war economic miracle began. New Allies joined the Alliance: Greece and Türkiye in 1952, and West Germany in 1955. European political integration took its first hesitant steps. In reaction to West Germany's NATO accession, the Soviet Union and its Eastern European client states formed the Warsaw Pact in 1955. Europe settled into an uneasy stand-off, symbolised by the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961. <https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/224100.htm>

Rehabilitation services

Rehabilitation services can improve your health and help you adjust to life at home, in your community or at work. Depending on your circumstances and needs, health professionals and other service providers can help you adapt to your service-related illness or injury.

About this program

Your rehabilitation needs will be assessed and then your individualized rehabilitation plan will be developed. Your rehabilitation plan is the roadmap to your recovery. The plan can include treatments from:

- Medical rehabilitation – services to improve your health to the fullest extent, or
- Psycho-social rehabilitation – health services to help you regain your independence.

When you are ready, your rehab plan can also include vocational rehabilitation. This part of your plan will identify the training or skills development you need to start a new career.

If your health does not allow you to take part in vocational rehabilitation, this part of your rehab plan can be transferred to your spouse as vocational assistance.

Do you qualify?

You should apply for rehabilitation services if you:

- Served in the Canadian Armed Forces, and
- Have a barrier to re-establishment which is a health issue (temporary or permanent) related to your service that prevents your full participation at work or home or in the community

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**.

Building a rehabilitation plan

We can usually make a decision about rehabilitation program eligibility within a few weeks of receiving your completed application. If approved, you will receive the one-on-one support of a VAC case manager.

Your case manager will work with you (and your family) to identify your goals. Together you will build your rehabilitation plan.

To ensure your success, the plan will identify:

- Your goals
- The services and benefits you will need to reach those goals
- Service providers to help get you there
- A timeframe 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, your rehabilitation service specialist, 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 health professionals, and others
- Track and discuss your progress on a regular basis

Additional information

Find out more

Are you medically-releasing from the Canadian Armed Forces soon?

If so, you can apply for rehabilitation services before you leave service. If approved, the start date of your rehabilitation plan, and your [Income Replacement Benefit](#), can be the day after you release.

Related programs

[Vocational rehabilitation](#) - Coaching, support and any other training you need to return to work or find a new job after an injury.

[Vocational assistance](#) - Coaching, support and any other training you need to return to work or find a new job after an injury.

[Income Replacement Benefit](#) – A monthly payment to maintain your income while you are taking part in the VAC rehabilitation program.

[Case management](#) – A case manager can help you set goals and find the services you need to overcome a challenge in your life.

[Guided support](#) – Sometimes life situations can be challenging. When the challenge is too much to handle independently, Guided Support services can help you and your family.

Frequently asked questions

FAQs: [Rehabilitation Services and Vocational Assistance program delivery updates](#)

How can I pay my bills while taking part in the rehab program?

Participants in rehabilitation services with health problems resulting primarily from service may qualify for the [Income Replacement Benefit](#). This income support ensures your total income will be at least 90% of your gross pre-release military salary. This is available so you can focus on what matters most – your health and career goals.

I didn't medically release from service, but I am having difficulty coping with life after service, do I qualify?

VAC's rehabilitation services assist any Veteran who is experiencing a physical or mental health issue, related to their service, which is creating a barrier to their re-establishment to civilian life. It does not matter if that barrier is considered permanent or temporary. When you are completing the application form, be sure to detail how your health has negatively impacted your life at home, at work or in the community.

I already applied for a disability benefit and provided this information on all of my health issues, do I have to do that all over again to apply for Rehabilitation.

No. If you have already applied for a VAC disability benefit for any of the health conditions that are creating a barrier to your re-establishment in civilian life, just check the box on the rehabilitation form that says "see recent disability award application on file".

Are there policies for this program?

Yes. Read more about the policies related to [rehabilitation services and vocational assistance program](#).

IN THE MEDIA

[How to 3D-print a school in a war zone](#)

CNN

With its soft gray lines and sleek, curving exterior, Project Hive looks less like a school and more like a wellness retreat or modern art museum. The structure's distinctive appearance, with a texture resembling a cocoon or the structure's namesake beehive, is down to the construction method used to build it: 3D printing. Standing less than 200 feet from School No.23 in Lviv, Ukraine, the walls of the 3,983-square-foot educational facility were printed in just 40 hours with a COBOD gantry printer, which follows digital blueprints to lay concrete like piping icing onto a cake. [Read More](#)

[The robots are coming: US Army experiments with human-machine warfare](#)

Army Times

Looking like a toy helicopter, a small black drone rose up over a cluster of adobe buildings in a quiet desert village, emitting a faint buzz. The drone, an Anduril Industries' Ghost-X, paused and then rose higher, disappearing into the clouds. Another followed. Seemingly small and unthreatening, the drones were serving as the eyes of an infantry company concealed by the surrounding mountains and readying to reclaim a village held by the enemy. And those drones were not alone. [Read More](#)

[Data transfer issue may have kept thousands of veterans from being hired: officials](#)

The Canadian Press via CTV News

A technical problem may have kept thousands of veterans and Canadian Armed Forces members from being hired or having the opportunity to apply for public service jobs. Officials said the issue began in November 2020 and continued through January 2024. [Read More](#)

[Ottawa moves to strip military of power to investigate sexual offences](#)

CBC

The federal government has introduced long-awaited legislation to strip military police and the military justice system of the power to investigate and prosecute sexual offences on Canadian soil. The bill, tabled in the House of Commons recently, also proposes changes to the way military judges, the Canadian Forces provost marshal, the director of military prosecutions and the director of defence counsel services are appointed. [Read More](#)

[Le Japon, le Canada et la Nouvelle-Zélande pourraient bientôt rejoindre le pilier 2 du pacte AUKUS](#)

Zone Militaire

Outre les remous diplomatiques qu'elle a engendrés avec la France, l'accord de coopération militaire AUKUS entre l'Australie, le Royaume-Uni et les États-Unis, annoncé en septembre 2021, a suscité un certain émoi au Canada, mis sur la touche malgré son appartenance au groupe dit des « Five Eyes », créé au lendemain de la Seconde Guerre Mondiale pour faciliter la collecte et le partage d'informations entre les services de renseignement américains, britanniques, canadiens, australiens et néo-zélandais. [Lire Plus](#)

[Canadian military aiding embassy in Haiti includes elite unit: Sources](#)

Global News

Members of Canada's elite special forces unit are at the embassy in Haiti's capital city, Global News has learned. Members of Joint Task Force 2, the highly-trained counterterrorism unit, have been preparing to deploy for the past two weeks as escalating gang violence in Haiti reached dangerous levels, sources have said. [Read More](#)

Base/Wing — Newspaper

14 Wing Greenwood — [The Aurora](#)

22 Wing North Bay — [The Shield](#)

4 Wing Cold Lake — [The Courier](#)

17 Wing Winnipeg — [The Voxair](#)

CFB Halifax — [The Trident](#)

CFB Edmonton — [The Western Sentinel](#)

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](#)

CFB Valcartier — [The Adsum](#)
CFB Kingston — [Garrison News](#)
CFB St Jean — [The Servir](#)
3 Wing Bagotville — [The Vortex](#)
CFB Borden — [The Citizen](#)
Base Gagetown — [Gagetown Gazette](#)