

Media Report 21 February 2020

This weeks media reports will cover and answer great questions veterans are still asking **and** direction to Support you need, when you need it. Rehabilitation services and local Media Articles

Dear Stakeholders and Advisory Group members,

Did you know that almost 90% of Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members look for civilian employment after they release from the military? Gainful employment and satisfaction in the workplace can ease some of the stressors facing Veterans and families during the transition from military to civilian life. VAC is committed to helping Veterans and their families transition to meaningful careers in civilian life. As part of this commitment we are hosting a Career and Education Fair in Calgary, Alberta at [Ross Glenn Hall at the Mount Royal University campus](#) on January 24, 2020 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The fair will be a tradeshow style event with booths for employers, educational institutions, volunteer organizations and other VAC partners. Some employers may be hiring on site at the fair so bringing an up-to-date resume is encouraged. We will also have a variety of workshops, activities and presentations throughout the day, including topics such as applying for federal government jobs, VAC services and benefits, and entrepreneurship.

For more information, please visit veterans.gc.ca/fair or contactvac.infovacfair-infofireacc.acc@canada.ca.

We encourage you to pass this along to anyone who may be interested.

Sincerely,

Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach Team

Veterans Affairs Canada

vac.engagement.acc@canada.ca

Cher(e)s intervenant(e)s et membres des groupes consultatifs,

Saviez-vous que près de 90 % des membres des Forces armées canadiennes (FAC) cherchent un emploi civil après leur libération de l'armée? L'emploi rémunérateur et la satisfaction au travail peuvent réduire certains des facteurs de stress auxquels se heurtent les vétérans et leur famille au cours de la transition de la vie militaire à la vie civile.

ACC est déterminé à aider les vétérans et leur famille à poursuivre une carrière valorisante dans le cadre de leur transition à la vie civile. Dans le cadre de cet engagement, nous organisons une foire de l'emploi et de l'éducation à Calgary, en Alberta, à [la salle Ross Glenn de l'Université Mount Royal](#) le 24 janvier 2020, de 14 h à 19 h.

L'activité prendra la forme d'un salon professionnel où des employeurs, des établissements d'enseignement, des organismes bénévoles et d'autres partenaires d'ACC présenteront des kiosques. Comme certains employeurs pourraient procéder à des embauches sur place, il est conseillé d'avoir en main un CV à jour. Nous offrirons également toute une gamme d'ateliers, d'activités et de présentations au cours de la journée, notamment sur des sujets comme postuler à un emploi au sein de la fonction publique fédérale, les services et les avantages d'ACC et l'entrepreneuriat.

Pour obtenir plus de renseignements, veuillez visiter veterans.gc.ca/foire ou envoyer un courriel à vac.infovacfair-infofoireacc.acc@canada.ca.

Nous vous encourageons à transmettre ce message à ceux que cette foire pourrait intéresser.

Cordialement,

L'Équipe de mobilisation et sensibilisation des intervenants

Anciens Combattants Canada

vac.engagement.acc@canada.ca

Subject: Government of Canada Publications

While doing some research for material for some of the programs I touch base with, at the day-job, I came across subject website – here is a link: <http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/home.html>

It provides a search feature and a box on the right that provides links to some highlighted items – currently showing 5 pages of three items each.

On Page 4: Canadian Veterans with Disabilities: <http://publications.gc.ca/pub?id=9.881454&sl=0>

On Page 5: Indigenous veterans: from memories of injustice to lasting recognition: <http://publications.gc.ca/pub?id=9.868144&sl=0>

Heroes remember presents: June 6th, 1944, D-Day: <http://publications.gc.ca/pub?id=9.871984&sl=0>

Moving towards ending homelessness among veterans: <http://publications.gc.ca/pub?id=9.872351&sl=0>

From a look at past highlighted items (I browsed back as far as the end of March 19):

Client experiences with Veterans Affairs Canada Rehabilitation Program and Case Management Services: Final Report: <http://publications.gc.ca/pub?id=9.875373&sl=0>

Defending Canadian Sovereignty: new threats, new challenges: <http://publications.gc.ca/pub?id=9.868774&sl=0>

Medical cannabis and veterans' well-being: <http://publications.gc.ca/pub?id=9.874423&sl=0>

- Dear Stakeholders and Advisory Group members,

Following the successful redesign of the services content on our website, veterans.gc.ca, I am pleased to inform you that we have done the same for our commemorative content.

The redesigned website follows a human-centered design approach built from user-testing, research, and analysis. It provides Veterans, their families and the general public with clear, user-friendly access to our content.

There are a couple of key differences about the redesigned website. The first is the language we use. Information is now easier to read and understand for users of all ages. We have also changed the format and layout to reflect the Department's new look and feel. This means it's more visually appealing with consistent flow from one page to the next and has a stronger focus on what the user is looking for. One of the key things we heard during testing is that visitors wanted to read more about those who served. We will make sure these stories are told.

I encourage you to explore the [new website](#) and to promote and share it within your organization and/or networks. Check out the Department's social media channels for more information and posts to share.

Regards,

The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay

Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence

Cher(e)s intervenant(e)s et membres des groupes consultatif,

Après le remaniement réussi du contenu de la section sur les services de notre site Web, veterans.gc.ca, je suis heureux de vous annoncer que nous avons également remanié le contenu de notre section sur la commémoration.

Notre site Web a été remanié en suivant une approche de conception centrée sur l'humain et fondée sur des essais auprès des utilisateurs, des recherches et des analyses, de manière à offrir aux vétérans, à leur famille et au grand public un accès clair et convivial à notre contenu.

Il y a quelques différences importantes entre l'ancien site Web et le site remanié. La première différence touche le langage que nous utilisons. L'information est maintenant plus facile à comprendre pour les utilisateurs de tous âges. De plus, le format et la disposition ont été modifiés afin de tenir compte de la nouvelle présentation du Ministère. Le passage d'une page à l'autre est donc plus facile et le contenu porte davantage sur l'information recherchée par l'utilisateur. L'un des principaux commentaires que nous avons reçus dans le cadre de nos essais auprès des utilisateurs est que ceux-ci souhaitent en apprendre davantage sur les personnes qui ont servi. Nous nous sommes donc engagés à faire en sorte que leurs récits soient racontés.

Je vous invite à explorer le [nouveau site Web](#) et à le promouvoir au sein de votre organisation et de vos réseaux. Consultez les médias sociaux du Ministère pour obtenir d'autres renseignements et des publications à partager.

Cordialement,

L'honorable Lawrence MacAulay

Ministre des Anciens Combattants et ministre associé de la Défense nationale

Chapter 5 – Attendance Allowance

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Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to provide criteria for use in determining the entitlement and assessment for an Attendance Allowance award.

Entitlement to Attendance Allowance is based on three legislative requirements of the Pension Act.

Assessment of Attendance Allowance is the grade level determination of the extent of attendance required for specific elements, as outlined in this policy.

Related Legislation

Subsection 38(1) of the Pension Act reads as follows:

A member of the forces who has been awarded a pension or compensation or both, is totally disabled, whether by reason of military service or not, and is in need of attendance shall, on application, in addition to the pension or compensation, or pension and compensation, be awarded an attendance allowance at a rate determined by VAC in accordance with the minimum and maximum rates set out in Schedule III.

Related Policy

[Allowances](#)

Entitlement

Definitions:

For the purposes of Attendance Allowance eligibility:

“awarded a pension or compensation” is defined as in receipt of a Disability Pension of 1% or more or Prisoner of War compensation.

“totally disabled by reason of military service or not” is defined as an applicant who meets the definition of “totally disabled” in accordance with [Table 1](#) of this policy.

“in need of attendance” is defined as the need for assistance or supervision of another individual with feeding, bathing, dressing, toileting, mobility or medication administration, that is not already being met by benefits, services or care provided to the client by VAC pursuant to veterans' legislation or any other program, including but not limited to federal, provincial, municipal or community programs, whereby the benefits services or care is provided at no expense to the client.

Relevant Table:

- [Table 1](#) is used to determine whether an individual is “totally disabled” for the purposes of establishing eligibility for Attendance Allowance.

Establishing Entitlement:

To establish entitlement, an applicant must meet all three legislative requirements. Use the following steps to verify that each requirement is met.

- Step 1: Is the applicant in receipt of Disability Pension of 1% or more and/or POW compensation?
- Step 2: Is the applicant "totally disabled"? Use [Table 1](#) to establish this requirement. In accordance with [Table 1](#), if the evidence establishes that the applicant suffers from a prolonged impairment which has lasted or is expected to last at least 12 months and the applicant meets the criteria outlined in [Table 1](#), the applicant is determined to be "totally disabled" for the purposes of Attendance Allowance eligibility.
- Step 3: Is the applicant in "need of attendance"? If the applicant demonstrates a need for attendance in feeding, bathing, dressing, toileting, mobility or medication administration; then the applicant meets this requirement.

If any one of the three legislative requirements are not met, the applicant does not meet eligibility and entitlement to Attendance Allowance must be denied.¹

Footnote 1

Applicants who fall into one of the "Special Categories", i.e. paraplegia; blindness or amputations, would meet the "totally disabled" requirement; however, if they do not demonstrate a "need of attendance" in any of the six elements, they would not be eligible for an attendance allowance.

[Return to footnote 1 referrer](#)

Assessment

As with any other award under the Pension Act, once entitlement is granted, an assessment determination is made for payment purposes.

With respect to Attendance Allowance, once the three legislated requirements are met and an applicant is found to be eligible for an award, the extent of the applicant's need for attendance is then assessed to determine the grade level for payment purposes. The extent of the need for attendance is expressed as the "grade level".

Attendance Allowance is assessed based on a record of factual information covering the applicant's actual need for attendance. The need for attendance is assessed using five grade levels ranging from Grade 5 (occasional attendance) to Grade 1 (total attendance).

The elements which are taken into consideration in the determination of a grade level include:

- The need for assistance or supervision with:
 - Feeding

- Bathing
- Dressing
- Toileting
- Mobility
- Medication administration.

Relevant Tables

Assessment of grade levels for Attendance Allowance are to be determined by using [Table 2](#), [Table 3](#) and [Table 4](#) of this chapter.

- Table 2 outlines the five grade levels ranging from Grade I to Grade V.
- Table 3 outlines Special Categories and their prescribed Grade Level assessments.
- Table 4 contains guidelines to be used in conjunction with [Table 2](#). The guidelines help determine the extent of attendance required.

Establishing Assessment

- Step 1: If “Special Categories” exist, i.e. paraplegics, blindness or amputations, refer to [Table 3](#) and establish the prescribed grade level. If no “Special Categories” exist, skip this step.
- Step 2: Refer to [Table 2](#) and accompanying [Table 4](#) Using [Table 4](#) as a guide, rate the level of attendance required for each of the six elements indicated in [Table 4](#).
- Step 3: Based on the ratings from [Table 4](#), establish the grade level determination using the following instructions:

- In cases where a client demonstrates a need for attendance at the same level for two or more of the elements found in [Table 4](#), i.e. feeding, bathing, dressing, toileting, mobility or medication administration, and demonstrates a need for attendance at another level for two or more of these elements, assign the grade level that is most advantageous.

Example: if a client demonstrates a need for attendance at level 5 for feeding, dressing and medication administration and a level 4 for toileting and mobility, the client will be awarded a grade level of Grade 4.

- In cases where a client demonstrates a greater degree of attendance in only one of the elements of [Table 4](#) i.e. feeding, bathing, dressing, toileting, mobility or medication administration, which is one or two levels higher than the remaining elements, the isolated higher level will not be used to establish the grade level determination. In such cases, the assessor will refer to the next highest degree of attendance required for the remaining elements in [Table 4](#) to establish the grade level determination.

Example: If a client demonstrates a degree of attendance at level 5 for feeding, bathing, and dressing, level 4 for toileting and level 2 for mobility, in accordance with this policy, the client will not be awarded Grade 2 on the basis of the degree of attendance for mobility alone, but will be awarded the next highest degree of attendance required, which in this example is Grade 4.

- In cases where a client demonstrates a degree of attendance in only one element of [Table 4](#), i.e. feeding, bathing, dressing, toileting, mobility or medication administration, and no need of attendance in any of the remaining five elements, a Grade 5 attendance allowance should be awarded.

Example: If a client demonstrates a degree of attendance at level 4 for bathing only, the client will be awarded a Grade 5 attendance allowance.

- In order for a client to be awarded a Grade 1 attendance allowance, the client must demonstrate a need for attendance at the Grade 1 level in all six elements found in [Table 4](#), i.e. feeding, bathing, dressing, toileting, mobility and medication administration. In cases where a client demonstrates a need for attendance at the Grade 1 level for two to five of the elements, the attendance allowance must be awarded at one of the lower Grades, whichever the adjudicator determines is most appropriate.

Example 1: If a client demonstrates a need of attendance at level 1 for dressing, bathing, toileting, and mobility, and level 2 for feeding and medication administration, the client should be awarded a Grade 2 attendance allowance.

Example 2: If a client demonstrates a need of attendance at level 1 for bathing, dressing, toileting and mobility, level 2 for medication administration and level 3 for feeding, the client may be awarded either a Grade 2 or 3 attendance allowance, whichever is determined to be more appropriate.

Example 3: If a client demonstrates a need of attendance at level 1 for bathing, dressing, toileting and mobility and level 3 for medication administration and feeding, the client may be awarded either a Grade 2 or 3 attendance allowance, whichever is determined to be more appropriate.

- In cases dealing with “Special Categories”, i.e. paraplegia; blindness or amputations, the applicant will be awarded the most beneficial grade level for which he/she qualifies using [Table 3](#) and [Table 2 / Table 4](#).

Example: Using the Special Categories [Table 3](#), a Grade 4 is prescribed for blindness where an individual cannot count fingers beyond several feet. Using [Table 2](#) and accompanying [Table 4](#), the client demonstrates

a need for attendance at level 4 for feeding, bathing and dressing and level 3 for mobility and medication administration. In cases such as this, compare the assessment resulting from [Table 3](#) with the assessment resulting from the rating from [Table 4](#) and select the higher assessment. In this example, Grade 3 would be awarded.

Table 1 – Definition of Totally Disabled for Attendance Allowance Eligibility

In establishing whether a person is “totally disabled” for the purposes of AA, there must be evidence of prolonged impairment – lasting 12 months or expected to last at least 12 months.

Persons in receipt of 100% Disability Pension [2](#) from VAC are considered totally disabled for AA purposes; those in receipt of less than 100% pension must meet one of the following criteria:

- 1.Paraplegics, blindness and amputations as defined in [Table 3](#) - Special Categories of Chapter 5 of the Table of Disabilities.
- 2.Has a single amputation of one upper limb (at or above the wrist) or of the lower Limb (at or above the ankle).
- 3.Requires life sustaining therapy to support a vital function, e.g. oxygen, clapping therapy to help in breathing, kidney dialysis to filter blood. Life sustaining therapy does not include implanted devices such as a pacemaker or special programs of diet, exercise, hygiene, or medication. Medical evidence must certify that you need, and dedicate time specifically for this therapy at least three times per week to an average of at least 14 hours per week. The need for this therapy must have lasted, or be expected to last, for a continuous period of at least 12 months.
- 4.Unable, all or most of the time, to feed oneself, or takes an inordinate amount of time to do so, even with the aid of medication, therapy or a device.
- 5.Is dependant on another individual to wash most of body i.e. may be able to wash face and hands independently.
- 6.Is dependant on another individual to dress entire body.
- 7.Unable, all or most of the time, to personally manage bowel or bladder functions, or takes an inordinate amount of time to do so. (i.e. requires assistance with ostomy care, catheter care, or the changing of incontinent pads or briefs).
- 8.Unable, all or most of the time, to walk 50 metres (164 feet) on level ground, or takes an inordinate amount of time to do so, even with the aid of medication, therapy or a device.
- 9.Unable, all or most of the time, due to a psychological or cognitive impairment, to perceive, think or remember, even with the aid of medication, therapy or a device, i.e. cannot initiate or manage basic personal care or take medications without constant supervision.

Does not include cases where the combined Disability Pension and Prisoner of War compensation is equivalent to a 100% disability pension, or the disability is assessed at 100% but only partial entitlement was awarded, e.g. (100% x 4/5 = 80%).

[Return to footnote 2 referrer](#)

Related Definitions

Prolonged: An impairment is prolonged if it has lasted, or is expected to last, for a continuous period of at least 12 months. In cases where terminally ill clients are not expected to live more than 12 months, their impairment will still be considered prolonged because it is impossible to know with any degree of certainty if they will indeed die within a 12-month period.

Markedly Restricted: One may be markedly restricted if, all or almost all the time, one is unable (or it takes you an extremely long time) to perform a basic activity of daily living, even with therapy (other than life-sustaining therapy) and with the use of appropriate devices and medication.

For the purposes of establishing “total disability” for AA eligibility purposes, the following elements have been taken into consideration:

- walking
- perceiving, thinking or remembering
- basic personal care, i.e. washing
- feeding
- dressing
- toileting, i.e. bowel or bladder functions

In determining the Grade of AA, activities such as housekeeping, preparing meals, shopping/errands, laundry, grounds keeping, repair and maintenance, using transportation or driving, using the telephone, managing money and social or recreational activities, are not taken into consideration.

Life-sustaining Therapy: Life-sustaining therapy includes therapy to help in breathing, i.e. oxygen, or kidney dialysis to filter blood. Life-sustaining therapy does not include implanted devices such as a pacemaker or special programs of diet, exercise, hygiene, or medication. Medical evidence must certify that you need, and dedicate time specifically for, this therapy at least three times per week, to an average of at least 14 hours per week. The need for this therapy must have lasted, or be expected to last, for a continuous period of at least 12 months.

Inordinate amount of Time: An “inordinate amount of time” is defined as significantly more time than it would take an individual of the same age to complete an activity in the absence of the impairment.

Table 23 - Grade Levels

- Needs total care.
- Needs significant supervision or assistance (either personal or mechanical with all activities of daily living.)
- Needs intermittent daily supervision or assistance in performing some activities of daily living.
- Needs minimal supervision or assistance on a daily basis with activities of daily living but is essentially independent within home environment and can be safely left unattended for significant periods of time, overnight or throughout the day.
- Needs occasional assistance or supervision with activities of daily living.

Footnote 3

Table 2 should be used in conjunction with [Table 4](#). Using [Table 4](#) as a guide, rate the level of attendance required for each of the six elements indicated.

[Return to footnote 3 referrer](#)

Table 3 – Special Categories

1.Paraplegics With complete cord lesion (Grade 1)

2.Blindness

- Loss of both eyes or total – includes perception of light only, without projection. (Grade 1)
- Light perception with some projection. Can distinguish light areas against dark. e.g. open doorways, windows. (Grade 2)
- Cannot identify hand movements. (Grade 3)
- Cannot count fingers beyond 1 foot. (Grade 3)
- Cannot count fingers beyond several feet. (Grade 4)
- Cannot distinguish more than big letters (1st letter on chart 8 – 10 feet). (Grade 4)
- Vision in better eye not more than 6/60 (20/200). (Grade 4)
- Legally blind and/or accepted by CNIB for services. (Grade 4)

3.Amputations

- Both Arms (at or above the wrist). (Grade 2)
- One arm, or one leg at or above the knee. (Grade 3)
- One limb at the knee or above the other below the knee but above a Syme's⁴. (Grade 3)
- Both lower limbs below the knee, but above a Syme's. (Grade 3)
- One Syme's and the other below the knee. (Grade 4)
- Bilateral Syme's. (Grade 4)

These “Special Categories” shall be considered in conjunction with [Table 2](#) and the applicant shall be awarded the most beneficial grade level for which he/she qualifies under the two systems.

Footnote 4

Amputation of the foot at the ankle with removal of both malleoli (the rounded process of protuberance on either side of the ankle joint).

[Return to footnote 4 referrer](#)

Table 4 - AA Grade Level Guidelines for use with Table 2

Table 4 - AA Grade Level Guidelines for use with Table 2

Grade Element	Attendance Feeding
Not in Need of Attendance	able to feed self independently with or without special equipment and without assistance or supervision of another individual
Grade 5 "Occasional"	occasionally needs food cut up but is able to feed self – this may not be a daily need
Grade 4 "Minimal"	requires food to be cut up on a daily basis but is able to feed self independently or with minimal assistance and/or supervision (e.g. help holding glass; cuing, encouraging or motivating to eat; etc.)
Grade 3 "Intermittent"	requires food to be cut up on a daily basis and may require a greater degree of assistance and/or supervision while eating (e.g. help holding glass and placing fork in hand; supervision to prevent choking on certain foods; etc.)
Grade 2 "Significant"	must be constantly assisted and/or supervised while eating
Grade 1 "Total"	needs to be fed ⁵
Grade Element	Bathing
Not in Need of Attendance	able to bathe self independently with or without special equipment and without assistance or supervision of another individual
Grade 5 "Occasional"	occasionally requires assistance and/or supervision of another individual while bathing - this may not be a daily need
Grade 4 "Minimal"	requires some assistance and/or supervision while bathing (e.g help with bathing difficult to reach body parts such as back and feet; help getting in and out of tub; cuing or encouraging; etc.)
Grade 3 "Intermittent"	requires a greater degree of assistance and/or supervision while bathing – than in Grade 4 (e.g. help with bathing more than just back and feet, such as the entire upper or lower body; closer supervision while bathing; etc.)
Grade 2 "Significant"	able to wash own face and hands but requires constant assistance and/or supervision during remainder of bath (i.e. cannot be left unattended while bathing)

Grade 1
"Total" needs total assistance with bathing⁵

Element	Dressing
Not in Need of Attendance	able to dress self independently with or without special equipment and without assistance or supervision of another individual
Grade 5 "Occasional"	occasionally requires assistance and/or supervision of another individual with dressing – this may not be a daily need
Grade 4 "Minimal"	requires some assistance and/or supervision while dressing (e.g. help with socks, zippers, and/or buttons; cuing or motivation; etc.)
Grade 3 "Intermittent"	requires a greater degree of assistance and/or supervision while dressing (e.g. help with putting on certain garments; supervision to prevent falls; etc.)
Grade 2 "Significant"	must be constantly assisted and/or supervised by another individual while dressing
Grade 1 "Total"	needs total assistance with dressing ⁵

Element	Toileting
Not in Need of Attendance	able to manage toileting independently with or without special equipment and without assistance or supervision of another individual
Grade 5 "Occasional"	occasionally needs assistance and/or supervision of another individual with toileting – this may not be a daily need (e.g. needs help with incontinent briefs from time to time)
Grade 4 "Minimal"	requires minimal daily assistance and/or supervision with toileting (e.g. assistance with wiping)
Grade 3 "Intermittent"	requires a greater degree of assistance and/or supervision while toileting (e.g. assistance with lowering under-garments and wiping; supervision to prevent falls; etc.)
Grade 2 "Significant"	must be constantly assisted and/or supervised by another individual while toileting (e.g. needs help with incontinent pads every night; needs constant reminders to toilet; etc.)
Grade 1 "Total"	totally incontinent or dependant on another individual for toileting (e.g. needs help with catheter, bedpan or incontinent pads at all times ⁵)

Element	Medication Administration
Not in Need of Attendance	requires no medications or is able to take prescribed medications independently from bottles or self-prepared dosett.
Grade 5 "Occasional"	is able to take prescription medications independently, including Insulin, but requires the use of blister packs or a dosett prepared by another individual; may need occasional reminders.
Grade 4 "Minimal"	is able to take prescribed medications independently, including Insulin, but requires the use of blister packs or a dosett prepared by

	another individual; may need daily reminders.
Grade 3 "Intermittent"	is able to take prescribed medications independently, including Insulin, but requires the use of blister packs or a dosett prepared by another individual; needs reminders with each dose.
Grade 2 "Significant"	requires medications to be administered to assure proper usage - (includes cases where a family member or nurse must come into home to administer meds (does not include cases where client is capable of managing own meds but someone, e.g. spouse, chooses to do so for the client.))
Grade 1 "Total"	is totally dependent on another individual to administer all medications ⁵

Element	Mobility
Not in Need of Attendance	independent with mobility - with or without special equipment and without assistance or supervision of another individual (e.g. can walk, use cane, walker, scooter or wheelchair with no assistance or supervision).
Grade 5 "Occasional"	needs occasional assistance and/or supervision of another individual to be mobile (e.g. transferring).
Grade 4 "Minimal"	needs daily assistance and/or supervision of another individual to be mobile (e.g. with the use of a cane or walker indoors and outdoors and the use of a scooter or wheelchair for distance).
Grade 3 "Intermittent"	needs a greater degree of assistance and/or supervision of another individual to be mobile (e.g. with the use of a cane or walker indoors or the use of a wheelchair or scooter at all times outdoors).
Grade 2 "Significant"	needs constant assistance and/or supervision of another individual to be mobile (e.g. with the use of wheelchair at all times; cannot be left unattended, as would be the case with an Alzheimers patient).
Grade 1 "Total"	bedridden, if transferring to a chair, needs another individual to lift out manually or to operate a mechanical lift ⁵

[NATO moves to expand Canadian-led military training mission in Iraq](#)

CBC News

NATO defence ministers have agreed to expand the Canadian-led military training mission in Iraq and take over some of the activities currently being carried out by the anti-Islamic State coalition of allies. The alliance's secretary general, Jen Stoltenberg, made the announcement halfway through the two-day meeting in Brussels. Calling it a decision in principle, he cautioned that the details still need to be worked out and approved by the government in Baghdad.

[READ MORE](#)

[Cards for Collier Euchre Tourney, in memory of a local hero](#)

Bradford Today

Family and friends of Brian Collier are determined to keep his memory alive in his home town of Bradford. Collier lost his life while serving in the Canadian Armed Forces. On July 20, 2010, on his first tour of duty in Afghanistan, he was killed by an improvised explosive device at the age of just 24. He is remembered at Remembrance Day and National Peacekeepers' Day ceremonies in Bradford, and the town has named the busy road between the BWG Public Library and the Leisure Centre "Brian Collier Way."

[READ MORE](#)

[How to beat the bomber](#)

Legion Magazine

Ten years ago on Feb. 19, an improvised explosive device was found under a major road in Afghanistan. The device was placed about 10 metres down a small culvert — out of reach of equipment, impossible to shield. A robot couldn't finish the job. There was nothing for it but to send in someone — a volunteer — to defuse the nasty thing. Corporal Dale Kurdziel put up his hand. He had only been in the country a few months, on his first tour to Afghanistan, working with the counter-IED task force.

[READ MORE](#)

[Le 12 RBC affronte les Alpes françaises](#)

Journal Adsum

Depuis quelques années, le 12e Régiment blindé du Canada (12 RBC) et le 4e Régiment de chasseurs (4 RCh) français font annuellement un échange interescadrons. Chaque année, les régiments échangent une trentaine de membres afin de partager leur expertise respective. [LIRE PLUS](#)

[Special forces troops from Petawawa taking part in African training exercise](#)

The Chronicle Herald

Canadian special forces are among those troops taking part in the annual Flintlock military exercise in Africa this month, the U.S. military announced. Approximately 1,600 service members from more than 30 African and partner nations are participating in Exercise Flintlock 2020 at multiple locations in Mauritania and Senegal from Feb. 17 to Feb. 28, the U.S. Africa Command stated.

[READ MORE](#)

[Exercise UNIFIED RESOLVE 2020 links Garrison Petawawa to multiple military bases](#)

Renfrew Today

A multi-jurisdictional military training exercise is well underway at Garrison Petawawa. Exercise Unified Resolve aims to maintain warfighting skills for the Canadian Armed Forces and other joint allies on the road to high readiness. Overseeing the operation, Colonel Pete Huet says the training has been ongoing for several months and involves several different military bases.

[READ MORE](#)

[La Légion royale canadienne offre une adhésion gratuite d'une année aux vétérans](#)

45e Nord

Souvent critiquée ces dernières années pour ce qui est perçue, à tort ou à raison, comme la trop grande proportion de civils dans ses rangs, la Légion royale canadienne a mis de l'avant cette semaine son offre aux membres des Forces armées canadiennes et de la Gendarmerie royale du Canada, en service ou à la retraite, d'une adhésion gratuite d'une année. [LIRE PLUS](#)

[Pentagon's European Deterrence Initiative takes a hit in budget request](#)

Air Force Magazine

The European Deterrence Initiative — funding dedicated to building up the U.S. military presence in Europe and improving readiness across the continent — will take a large hit in fiscal 2021 if Pentagon planners get their way. The Defense Department's budget requests includes \$4.5 billion for the EDI, a drop from the \$6 billion Congress put in place in 2020 and the \$6.5 billion in 2019. The Defense Department's request will need approval from a skeptical Congress, which in previous years has increased the spending in the account.

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[After protest, Army launches new competition for robotic mule](#)

Defense News

The Army has renewed a competition to acquire a robotic mule for light infantry after it canceled its previous award following a protest. The service recently posted a new Request for Proposals (RFP), allowing the four finalists in the original competition to re-compete for a chance to build its Small Multipurpose Equipment Transport (SMET) ground robotic vehicle. (The original name for the program was the Squad Multipurpose Equipment Transport).

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[Prévost livre un projet militaire de 880,3 M\\$](#)

Le Journal de Lévis

Les représentants de l'entreprise Mack Defense et le brigadier-général Gervais Carpentier, commandant de la 2e division des Forces armées canadiennes (FAC), ont célébré le 1 587e et dernier véhicule de soutien moyen livré aux FAC par Prevost à Saint-Nicolas, le 13 février dernier. Ce véhicule militaire annonce la fin du renouvellement de la flotte canadienne, un projet qui s'est déroulé sur les cinq dernières années et d'une valeur totale de 880,3 M\$. [LIRE PLUS](#)