

Veterans Affairs Canada November 2019

ORGANIZATION	CONTACT	PHONE NUMBER/ EMAIL ADDRESS	WEBSITE
<p>PROPOSED INITIAL CALLS - Veterans Affairs Canada has a large network of stakeholder organizations as well as the six Ministerial Advisory Groups (Policy, Mental Health, Service Excellence, Families, Commemoration, and Care and Support). It is recommended that initial contact be made to the following stakeholders.</p>			
1. Minister of National Defence	TBD		
2. Chief of the Defence Staff, Department of National Defence	Jonathan Vance	613-992-7405 or 613-904-5312 or email contact: sean.williams@forces.gc.ca	http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/index.page
3. Commissioner of the RCMP	Brenda Lucki	613-843-4590	http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/
4. Veterans Ombudsman	Craig Dalton	902-566-8348	https://www.ombudsman-veterans.gc.ca/eng
5. Veterans Review and Appeal Board	Chris McNeil	902-566-8796 or 902-566-8637	https://www.vrab-tacra.gc.ca/Home-accueil-eng.cfm
National level organizations			
6. Royal Canadian Legion (RCL) (Recommend calls to both the Dominion President and the Dominion Secretary)	Thomas D. Irvine, Dominion President *redacted*	*redacted*	http://www.legion.ca/
7. Army, Navy, and Air Force Veterans in Canada (ANAVETS)	*redacted*	*redacted*	http://anavets.ca/
8. Aboriginal Veterans Autochtones (AVA)	*redacted*	*redacted*	http://avavets.com/
9. National Council of Veteran Associations (NCVA)	*redacted*	*redacted*	http://www.ncva-cnaac.ca/

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10. NATO Veterans Organization of Canada (NVOC)	*redacted*		http://natoveterans.org/
11. Canadian Association of Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping (CAVUNP)			http://www.cavunp.org/
12. Canadian Peacekeeping Veterans Association (CPVA)			http://www.cpva.ca/
13. Royal Canadian Mounted Police Veterans Association			https://rcmpva.org/
14. Veterans UN-NATO Canada			http://veteransunnatohq.com/
15. MilitaryWomen.ca			http://militarywomen.ca/
Advisory Group Co-Chairs			
16. Co-Chair, Policy Advisory Group	Commodore (Retired) Andrea Siew	*redacted*	
17. Co-Chair, Service Excellence Advisory Group	Captain (Retired) Dennis LeBlanc	*redacted*	
18. Co-Chair Service Excellence Advisory Group	Deanna Fimrite	*redacted*	
19. Co-Chair, Mental Health Advisory Group	Major-General (Retired) Glynne Hines	*redacted*	

ORGANIZATION	CONTACT	PHONE NUMBER/ EMAIL ADDRESS	WEBSITE
20. Co-Chair, Advisory Group on Families	Sergeant (Retired) Alannah Gilmore	*redacted*	
21. Co-Chair, Care and Support Advisory Group	Major (Retired) Bruce Henwood	*redacted*	
22. Co-Chair, Care and Support Advisory Group	Mary Boutette	*redacted*	
23. Co-Chair, Commemoration Advisory Group	Dr. Steve Harris	*redacted*	

Place Holder

CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE STAFF, DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE



General Jonathan Vance

General Jonathan H. (Jon) Vance was born on 3 January 1964 in Kingston, Ontario and grew up in a military family. He started uniformed life at the age of 13 as an army cadet in Lahr, Germany. General Vance joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1982 and was commissioned as an infantry officer into The Royal Canadian Regiment in 1986 following his graduation from Royal Roads Military College (RRMC). General Vance has served in Canada, Germany and on UN Peacekeeping operations with the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions, The Royal Canadian Regiment, and has commanded at all levels within the field force from platoon commander to brigade commander and in combat operations as a

Joint Task Force Commander.

His early command and staff experiences included commanding Combat Support Company and The Duke's Company in 1RCR, and serving on the VCDS strategic planning staff as a major and lieutenant-colonel. From 2001 until 2003 General Vance commanded Second Battalion, The Royal Canadian Regiment in Gaagetown, New Brunswick. He commanded 1 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group in Edmonton from 2006 to 2008 and subsequently deployed as Commander Joint Task Force Afghanistan and Task Force Kandahar in 2009 and again in 2010.

Following his tours in Afghanistan, General Vance served in Army headquarters as Chief of Staff Land Strategy and as Director of the Strategic Joint Staff in National Defence Headquarters. He completed a tour as Deputy Commander, Allied Joint Force Command Naples in July 2014 before assuming the position as Commander Canadian Joint Operations Command in September of the same year.

General Vance was promoted to his current rank and formally appointed as the Canadian Armed Forces Chief of the Defence Staff in July 2015.

General Vance is a graduate of the Canadian Forces Staff School, the UK Combined Arms Tactics Course, the Canadian Army Staff College, the Canadian Forces Command and Staff Course, the Advanced Military Studies Course and the Coalition Forces Land Component Command Course. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Military and Strategic Studies from Royal Roads Military College, and a Master of Arts Degree in War Studies from RMC. His decorations include the Order of Military Merit in the rank of Commander, the Meritorious Service Cross with bar and a Mentioned-in-Dispatches. In 2011, he was awarded the Vimy Award for his contributions to Canadian defence and security.

COMMISSIONER OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE (RCMP)



Brenda Lucki, Commissioner

Brenda Lucki was born and raised in Edmonton, Alberta, and joined the RCMP in August 1986. During Commissioner Lucki's career, she has served in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan and at the RCMP Academy (Depot Division), as well as on international peacekeeping missions in the former Yugoslavia.

Her first posting was in Granby, Quebec, where she worked in federal policing, mostly in drugs and customs investigations.

In 1993 and 1994, she served on the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) mission in the former Yugoslavia, overseeing criminal investigations and monitoring the delivery of aid and health services.

In 1995, she was transferred to the RCMP's peacekeeping program in Ottawa, where she trained and selected peacekeepers for the UN missions in Haiti for a year-and-a-half.

Following that role, she advanced through the non-commissioned officer ranks, first as an instructor at the RCMP Training Academy for three years, then returning to operations in Manitoba for four years as a supervisor and Acting Detachment Commander.

In 2003, she was promoted to the rank of Inspector and held the post of Traffic Services Officer for Saskatchewan. She stayed in the province for six years, holding the role of Community and Contract Policing and District Operations Officer.

In 2009, she rose to the rank of Superintendent, and became the District Commander for the Manitoba North District. In 2012, she was transferred and promoted to Chief Superintendent, and became the District Commander of a larger area in northwest Alberta.

In 2016, she was named Commanding Officer of the RCMP Academy, and on March 9, 2018, she was announced as the RCMP's 24th Commissioner.

Commissioner Lucki completed a Bachelor of Arts in psychology and sociology at the University of Alberta in 1996. She also completed the Advanced Program in Management, Leadership and Strategy at the Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba in 2012. She is married and has two step-daughters and three grandchildren.

VETERANS OMBUDSMAN



Craig Dalton

Craig Dalton was appointed Veterans Ombudsman on November 11, 2018. Mr. Dalton was commissioned into the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery in 1990 and over the course of a 25-year career, had the distinct pleasure of serving alongside Canadian soldiers, sailors, airmen and airwomen, as well as whole-of- government partners, both here at home in Canada, and abroad on operations, in Cyprus, Bosnia-Herzegovina and, most recently, Afghanistan.

During his time in uniform, Mr. Dalton served in a wide variety of staff appointments and had the privilege to lead teams from the troop to formation level including command of the 2nd Regiment Royal Canadian Horse Artillery and command of 5th Canadian Division Support Group/Canadian Forces Base Gagetown.

Following his release in 2014, Mr. Dalton joined the Government of New Brunswick where he initially served as the Deputy Minister of Public Safety, with responsibility for Policing and Community Safety, Fire Services, Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Management, Corrections, Probation Services and Inspections and Enforcement.

Subsequently, he took over the role of the Deputy Minister of Social Development with responsibility for Disability Support Services, Social Services, Child and Youth Services, Affordable Housing and Homelessness, and Seniors and Long- Term Care. Most recently, Mr. Dalton served as the Deputy Minister of Family and Human Services with the Government of Prince Edward Island.

Mr. Dalton is a graduate of the Army Command and Staff College, the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and the Australian Defence College. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from the Royal Military College of Canada and holds Masters Degrees from Central Michigan University, the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and from Deakin University, Australia.

VETERANS REVIEW AND APPEAL BOARD (VRAB)



Chris McNeil, Chair

Chris McNeil was first appointed to the Veterans Review and Appeal Board as a Member in April 2015. He was appointed Chairperson in July 2018. Mr. McNeil spent more than 30 years serving with the Halifax Regional Police before retiring in 2013 as Deputy Chief. Mr. McNeil has extensive public sector leadership experience. In the course of his career, he also acted as a workplace rights coordinator and adjudicator in discipline matters. In addition to his policing career, Mr. McNeil worked as a solicitor for the Nova Scotia Department of Justice.

Mr. McNeil holds a Bachelor of Commerce from Saint Mary's University and a Law Degree from Dalhousie University.

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION DOMINION COMMAND (RCL)

Background

Incorporated by Act of Parliament

Canada's largest Veterans' organization. Over 275,000 members, more than 1,400 branches throughout Canada, the United States and Europe (not all members are Veterans)

National headquarters (Dominion Command) located in Kanata, Ontario

Canadian branches organized under 10 provincial commands which incorporate the three territories

VAC receives resolutions from RCL biennially, following the Dominion Command Convention. The 2018 Dominion Command Convention was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba from August 25-29.

The 48th Dominion Convention will be held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in August, 2020

Key Priorities

Care & Commitment: ensuring the lifelong financial security and care of our Veterans and their families

Homelessness & Suicide: making a tangible commitment to create a strategy to end Veteran homelessness; and taking concrete action to combat operational stress injuries and Veteran suicide

Recognition & Remembrance: taking greater responsibility to remember that Veterans maintain our freedoms and we have a duty to recognize this through our supportive actions

Leadership

Thomas D. Irvine, CD Dominion President

redacted

ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE VETERANS IN CANADA (ANAVETS)

Background

- Canada's oldest Veterans association (first unit formed 1840; incorporated 1917)
- 15,000 members belong to 68 units in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick – one unit in United States (ANAVICUS), part of American Legion
- National Headquarters (Dominion Command) located in Ottawa; seven provincial commands
- VAC receives resolutions from ANAVETS biennially, following the Dominion Command Convention. The 2018 Dominion Command Convention was held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan from August 11–15.

Key Priorities

- To stimulate the spirit of patriotism in Canada and promote closer unity and co-ordination within the British Commonwealth of Nations;
- To assist the British Commonwealth of Nations when occasion requires in enlisting recruits for Her Majesty's forces;
- To acquire, maintain and operate clubs, homes and meeting places for the benefit of veterans, and to furnish, stock and equip the same with such furniture, furnishings, plants, animals, implements, equipment, appliances, libraries, and means of entertainment and amusement, as may be considered desirable by the Association;
- To acquire and maintain museums in connection with any premises of the Association for the interest, education, or benefit of its members;

Leadership

redacted

ABORIGINAL VETERANS AUTOCHTONES (AVA)

Background

- Nationally incorporated organization (2011) representing the interests of Canadian Aboriginal Veterans and serving members of Aboriginal descent
- AVA draws on the former National Aboriginal Veterans Association (NAVA) for its history
- NAVA and AVA have served Canadian Aboriginal Veterans and serving members for over 30 years
- Voting members are Aboriginal Veterans or serving members; non-voting associate members support the Association and Aboriginal Veterans
- Mission:
 - To advocate for needs and rights of Aboriginal Veterans and their families and to support Aboriginal serving members
 - To provide community service through Aboriginal communities and youth
 - To honour the memory of fallen Aboriginal Veterans
 - Led by an Executive and Board of Directors

Key Priorities

- Create an atmosphere of better understanding of Aboriginal Veterans' issues
- Develop a plan of approach for improvements to supports and services for CAF members, Veterans and families suffering from the effects of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

Leadership

redacted

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF VETERAN ASSOCIATIONS IN CANADA (NCVA)

Background

- Established 1930s
- Umbrella organization representing approximately 60 distinct Veterans' associations
- Executive Committee with a Chairman, three Vice-Chairs and an Honourary Chairman
- Mandate "to promote understanding, cooperation and, if possible, uniformity in recommendations, proposals, and active efforts for the welfare of ex-servicemen, disabled and otherwise, in Canada"

Key Priorities

- Pension for Life benefits fail to address the financial disparity between the
- *Pension Act* and the New Veterans Charter
- Ensuring that no Veteran receives less compensation than someone else with the same disability or incapacity
- Advocating for the implementation of the recommendations of the Policy Advisory Group as presented at the Stakeholder Summit in October 2016

Leadership

redacted

NATO VETERANS ORGANIZATION OF CANADA (NVOC)

Background

- Established February 2007
- Membership 1000+ retired and serving Canadian military (Regular and Reserve) who have contributed to international peace and security through the North American Air Defence (NORAD) Agreement and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- Headquarters located in Ottawa; regional branches in the Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, Western and Pacific regions

Key Priorities

- Improvements to provision of financial support for Veterans with severe disabilities, particularly in the lower ranks through the Earnings Loss Benefit, Permanent Impairment Allowance and Disability Award; continuance of benefits after 65
- Equity with benefits provided under *Pension Act*
- Support for Veterans' families through open communication and access to education and priority job placement
- Improvement to the way Veterans Affairs Canada delivers programs under the Veterans Charter concerning services and benefits

Leadership

redacted

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF VETERANS IN UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING (CAVUNP)

Background

- Established 1986
- Twenty-six chapters throughout Canada
- Members have served with United Nations peacekeeping forces and on other peacekeeping missions sanctioned by the Government of Canada
- National headquarters located in Gloucester, Ontario

Key Priorities

- Lifelong adequate financial support
- Veteran identification card
- Commemorating UN Missions – how best to commemorate and honour peacekeeping Veterans (modern-day Veterans)

Leadership

redacted

CANADIAN PEACEKEEPING VETERANS ASSOCIATION (CPVA)

Background

- Incorporated in 1993
- Approximately 1,500 members
- Eight chapters across the country
- National headquarters located in Kingston, Ontario

Key Priorities

- Improvements to benefits for Veterans who served during the period between the Korean War and Afghanistan War
- Amend legislation to clearly state that there is a social contract, wherein the government and the people of Canada have the moral and social obligation to care for Veterans

Leadership

redacted

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE VETERANS' ASSOCIATION (RCMPVA)

Background

- In existence since 1886
- 4,000 active/paying members
- 30 Field Divisions in provinces across Canada
- VAC has partnered with RCMP for more than 60 years to administer benefits that enhance the well-being of RCMP members and Veterans
- VAC is responsible for delivering the disability pension program on behalf of the RCMP
- VAC currently has Memorandums of Understanding with RCMP to administer treatment benefits claims
- VAC, in conjunction with RCMP, implemented a Canada-wide program of transition interviews for all releasing RCMP Regular members, civilian members and Special Constables in April 2014
- RCMP members and Veterans have access to VAC/DND network of Operational Stress Injury Clinics, counselling services, VAC Assistance Service and case management

Key Priorities

- To promote and assist in the promotion and advancement of the best interests of Canada
- To be of service to the Government of Canada when required and requested
- To co-operate with and to render assistance to the Police, especially the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, in all matters of common interest or concern
- To promote the physical, social and economic welfare of the Association's members or the members of their immediate families
- To provide support to worthy community services or organizations of a charitable or benevolent nature

Leadership

redacted

VETERANS UN-NATO CANADA

Background

- Founded in 2008 by Denis “Ryfell” Beaudin
- Approximately 7,000 members
- Members are active and former Regular or Reserve Force members who have a minimum of three years’ service. Members are identified by a distinctive patch, with those members who have served on a UN or NATO mission identified by a slightly different patch than those who have not served on a mission
- Veterans UN-NATO Canada is not a motorcycle club
- The group’s main mission is to take members “out from isolation and give them a new taste for life while saving lives, and to create a healthy, trustworthy environment”
- Governed by a National President with provincial and regional representatives
- National headquarters is in Terrebonne, Quebec
- Chapters in all ten provinces; members in France, Germany and New Zealand

Key Priorities

- Support for Veterans suffering from PTSD
- Support for homeless Veterans

Leadership

redacted

redacted

**COMMODORE (RETIRED) ANDREA SIEW CANADIAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE
ASSOCIATION & POLICY ADVISORY GROUP**

redacted

CAPTAIN (RETIRED) DENNIS LEBLANC, CD
SERVICE EXCELLENCE ADVISORY GROUP

redacted

DEANNA FIMRITE

**ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE VETERANS IN CANADA &
SERVICE EXCELLENCE ADVISORY GROUP**

redacted

MAJOR-GENERAL (RETIRED) GLYNNE HINES, CMM, CD
**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - INTERIM PRESIDENT - OSI SPECIAL SECTION & MENTAL
HEALTH ADVISORY GROUP**

redacted

SERGEANT (RETIRED) ALANNAH GILMORE
VETERAN & ADVISORY GROUP ON FAMILIES

redacted

MAJOR (RETIRED) BRUCE HENWOOD, MSM, CD
CARE AND SUPPORT ADVISORY GROUP

redacted

MARY BOUTETTE

**THE PERLEY AND RIDEAU VETERANS' HEALTH CENTRE & CARE AND SUPPORT
ADVISORY GROUP**

redacted

DR. STEVEN HARRIS CD
COMMEMORATION ADVISORY GROUP

redacted