



## Mission – Team - Self.

Many servicemen, veterans and wounded warriors are familiar with the operational mantra, Mission, Team, Self. I am reminded of it often when speaking with one of my personal inspirations, Canada's 1st Veterans Ombudsman, Patrick Stogran. He is fond to remind me of the need of such a selfless mantra and its importance to the Canadian Veterans Advocacy's credibility as we embark on a mission to ensure that all veterans, of all eras, are treated with an equitable standard of compassion, dignity and life-time financial security.

The situation Canada's wounded warriors are confronting today are dire and time-sensitive. The conservative government's proposed 5-10 percent budgetary cuts to VACs operating mandate (150-300 MILLION Dollars) will bear consequences the programs and/or support levels Canada currently provides to the nations wounded warriors. Those who have been wounded and continue to serve are also in great danger as many of the Afghanistan wounded/families promised retention by CDS General Hillier in 2008 will now be subject to the repercussions a another broken promise. Should they prove incapable of passing the Canadian Forces Universality of Service fitness requirements, they will be forsaken to the unjust Chump Sum Award within the next three years! The much heralded Bill C-55's injustices can be defined through Royal Canadian Legion Dominion President Patricia Varga's charges of discrimination against WW2, Korean War and Peacekeeping veterans because they have been excluded from Bill C-55's enhancements. The Office of the Veterans Ombudsman have substantiated two primary CVA issues of concern by challenging the government's substandard policy on reservists and investigating the Veteran Review & Appeal Board.

The Canadians Veterans Advocacy is a staunch defender of our reservists, as warriors, we believe these valiant men and women have demonstrated they are good enough to deploy abroad, fight, bleed and die beside our professional soldiers and as such they damn well deserve the same level of respect and standards of compensation from Canada should they be wounded or injured. We are also optimistic the OVO's investigation into the VRAB will enhance our efforts to seek judicial justice for those who have appealed to the courts, succeeded only to be denied again on review! The CVA believes no one/organization is above the court/laws/charter, that justice for many disabled veterans has not been served and as a consequence, veterans and their families have suffered great economic hardship. Is not the precept of one standard of justice the reason we bear arms to defend our nation and promote Canadian democracy abroad? Is it not our duty to rally in defence of our wounded brothers/sisters in arms or when it occurs to them?

The answer.... Your damn right it is! Be a Canadian patriot... step up!

**Mission-** Redress the grotesque faults inherent within the New Veterans Charter and restore the life time Sacred Bond between Parliament and Canada's Sons and Daughters, a patriotic relationship abandoned in April, 2006 through the enactment of the NVC. We must accept the fact that as much as veterans are traditionally adverse to engage in any political action, we have NO CHOICE! We did not pick the field of battle, nor can we avoid it if we are to serve our troops and veterans who are in distress. Only PARLIAMENTARIANS can restore the Sacred Bond, the One Veteran, One Standard principles we have united the champion. We must adapt, we must engage at the only effective level (Parliament) and do so the same dedicated diligence we applied to our duties when in uniform.



**Team** - Do you still have the military spirit? Are you willing to put the mission, our mission, above the protocols of veterans organizations or associations unwilling to support a legal, democratic public protest designed solely to highlight the plight of our wounded warriors and to affect positive change? The Canadian Veterans Advocacy is not asking for permission to do what is right, we are asking you and all Canadian patriots to listen to your heart, to recognize that this is more important than wearing red on Friday or even standing sentinel along the national and local Highway of Heroes. We are fighting for the living, those who have sacrificed great treasure; legs, arms, feet, hands, eyes, disfigurement, burns, mental trauma... by God, is it not our DUTY as Canadians to stand up for them now, when they need us most, when our traditional veterans organizations, after five years, have failed to redress the hardships our wounded warriors are confronting every single day?

**Self.** You, Johnny Canuck/Cunuckette, can make a great difference as individuals, united under one set of principles and independent of any organization. The CVA is dedicated to providing a platform to fight for improvements of our wounded warriors quality of life and lifetime financial security. We need your help! You do not have to be a CVA member, only a Canadian patriot willing to stand up for our troops and wounded warriors. The situation is serious, our obligation to the wounded needs must supersede any traditional aversions veterans may entertain about participating at the political level as we must accept the bitter reality of the situation. We have no alternative! We either, individually and collectively, adapt to the situation, engage and attain our elected representatives parliamentary support for NVC reform or we abandon the Afghanistan generation of Canadian heroes to the substandard mandate of the New Veterans Charter. It takes courage to stand up for your brothers in arms, to do what is right, to recognize and accept your patriotic obligations and act responsibly. The act of one can be the deciding factor, step up, this year on 5 November, be the one!

**Veterans.** With all due respect, there is no expiration date on the Oath of Allegiance. Or to our loyalty to those to whom we have passed the torch, who proudly serve the regiments, ships, air units as we once did. You have served Canada with honour and distinction, across the globe, in war and peace, on the seas, land and sky. You fully comprehend the power of the Mission, Team, Self concept, understand that together we possess the courage, tenacity and resolve to do what is necessary to overcome adversity in Peace, War and now, at home, on behalf of those who stand on guard for thee. But only if we unite!

Answer the call to duty. Do not delay, contact your MP ASAP, respectfully insist that our wounded warriors are indeed a national treasure and the budget responsible for Canada's war wounded/injured welfare, treatment and financial stability must be exempt from budgetary cuts motivated by political zeal to pay off the national debt. On November 5th, stand tall, take one pace forward and add your voice to thousands of veterans and patriots across the nation as we, united and free, stand on guard for those who stand on guard for thee.

Michael L Blais CD  
Canadians Veterans Advocacy



## Patriots Call?



### What is a patriot?

One who stands for Canadian values and staunchly supports Canada's sons and daughters as they tread in harm's Way on their behalf during times of war and peace. At this time, Canada's wounded warriors need Canadians help, it is our sacred duty as veterans and citizens to speak for them when, after sacrificing so much on our behalf, after false hopes of broken promises about retention and a Chump Sum Award instead of the lifetime obligation, an obligation earned on the battlefields of France, Belgium, Italy, in the skies of England, Holland and Germany, at Juno Beach, Kapyong, Hill 187, the Persian Gulf, the Balkans, Africa... yet abandoned by Parliament in 2006 through the enactment of the New Veterans Charter.

On November 5th, add your voice to thousands of patriots, participate in our campaign to restore the Sacred Bond between Canada's warriors and the parliament that would send them into Harm's Way. Stand up for our troops, stand up for Canada!



***Chump Sum Award Legal Status- This is a segment of a letter from Jim Scott, who son was injured in Afghanistan and provided with the Chump Sum Award. The Canadian veterans Advocacy is determined to support Jim, his son and the many wounded warriors who have been subject to this profoundly unfair policy. Will you?***

... There is no doubt that the New Veterans Charter pays less than other provincial worker compensation programs or what the courts would pay out for the same injuries. I checked the settlement my son got and it was 1/10 of what he would have got (when converted to an annuity) from our BC workers compensation program...

And here is the problem: The Crown Liability Act prevents soldiers from challenging their settlement in Court.

... my son, I learned of other more seriously disabled soldiers who shared their settlement awards with me. Very low, very sad. I approached some organizations and they were all focused on working on Reviews and Appeals. However, I read the various Acts and the disability table and there was no way these soldiers could get a fair settlement inside of these Acts.

...disabled soldier called me and said he had a law firm that I should talk to. They agreed in principle to act for the disabled soldiers and notified the government of their intent... budgeted one million dollars to represent up to 30 disabled soldiers in a class action suit. However, the law firm would only take this action if I agreed to fund the soldiers' disbursement costs (medical reports, doctor's testimony in court, etc) – around \$200,000 to \$400,000. Now it was back to me, so I had to put \$20,000.00 on account to get the project started and I signed a document to provide the remaining funds. I don't think we will have trouble raising these funds, but I needed a Society to raise & receive the funds.

...in contact with disabled soldiers that feel they received a low settlement and are willing to publicly go to court over this issue. Also, we (the law firm) need to represent soldiers from across Canada. So each region needs to be covered. The law firm has lawyers in each major city ready to work one-on-one with individual soldiers. Also included in the 1M is personal legal help for soldiers who are part of this action. We got a big win when a large firm like Miller Thomson (470 lawyers) agreed to take on this case at no cost.

<http://www.millerthomson.com>

Jim Scott. [www.equitassociety.ca](http://www.equitassociety.ca)



## Canadian Veterans Advocacy Veterans Services Directorate

The CVA SD has been very active in advocating for veterans who are need of assistance on a variety of levels. Mr John Douglas Clark has been very effective in bridging difficult situations on a client level and I would encourage you to seek his assistance should you feel that you have not been treated fairly on your claim or you wish for assistance throughout the process. You are not alone, there is help. The CVA is always looking for veterans willing to assist other veterans through their experiences and support, if you want to help our brothers/sisters <http://www.canadianveteransadvocacy.com/service.html>



## Pennies for Veterans

Homeless veterans who have spent summers living under bridges, begging on our major cities streets, couch hopping or sleeping in the open and alleys under cardboard boxes are already experiencing the consequences of the approaching winter. Cold rains have struck many of our cities, and as October comes, the temperature is certain to drop. The Canadian Veterans Advocacy is dedicated to assisting veterans who are in crisis, veterans who are struggling on the streets, broke, homeless, ofttime requiring medical assistance or suffering from mental health issues. The CVA has developed a unique relationship with Veterans Affairs Canada, particularly in Toronto with the Good Shepherd /VAC program. Most recently, we dispatched \$1000 check to support Constable John Langford's Back in Step program and his efforts to provide shelter for 30 homeless veterans. Our priority, now must lie in Halifax, Nova Scotia where VETS Canada, a modern veterans organization fully endorsed by the Canadian Veterans Advocacy, has taken the lead. Tragically, the VAC/Legion sponsored programs in British Columbia and Ontario are not in place and as such, even when VETS Canada's front line troops identify a veteran in need, there is no assistance.

The situation is grim, neither the CVA or VETS Canada have the financial resources to fulfill this lack of services, indeed, what we do provide is used for BASIC ESSENTIALS, like providing a clean set of clothes, a shower, a place to stay for a couple of evenings, some decent food? Some HELP for problems that are often resultant of PTSD, something that was not recognized when these veterans served? Winter is looming, on the East Coast, it will soon be bitter cold! Can you help? Can you donate your spare change? That box, bag or jar of pennies? I can assure you, your contribution will be dedicated on a priority level based on providing REAL help. Lives are on the balance, you can support hope where hope has been abandoned...

Bank- Bank of Montreal, Account- Pennies for Veterans, Transit # =0005, Account #1143-271



## VETERANS EMERGENCY TRANSITION SERVICES



### V.E.T.S Canada

V.E.T.S. is a registered non-profit organization based out of Halifax and is dedicated to the aid and comfort of homeless and at risk veterans. We just registered in February 2011 but, sadly, we are very busy in our quest to provide assistance to our brothers and sisters. While we have an abundance of compassion and determination, we are lacking in support. The biggest obstacles we face are funding and the fact that no transitional housing for veterans currently exists in Nova Scotia. We have not yet obtained charitable status and as such are not able to issue tax receipts. Therefore, donations are not in large supply. Housing seems to be just a dream, never to be realized.

We are often asked the question "what are VAC and the Legion doing to help?"

Our answer is that the case managers that we deal with at VAC have been wonderful. We could not do much of what we do without them. As for the Legion, we don't have an answer. We have approached NS-Nunavut Command seeking help and have asked what their initiative is for homeless veterans but we haven't received a reply, therefore, we can't answer that question.

Anyone interested in learning more about V.E.T.S. or making a donation, please visit our website. [www.vetscanada.org](http://www.vetscanada.org)

Jim Lowther, CD  
President, V.E.T.S.



## Update - Canadian Veterans National Day of Protest 2011 – 1100 hrs, November 5th , 2011

**Exciting developments across the nation!** Supporters in Alberta are encouraged to rally around Klaus Rimke, perhaps make a pilgrimage to Calgary to support the rally in front of Prime Minister Harper's office. Be mindful always, our message is respectful of our patriotic allegiance to the fallen and reflects the values that have made this nation great. Your presence on November 5th and our collective efforts to engage in dialogue with our MP's is vital if we are to apprise them of the seriousness of the hardship our veterans, their families and Canada's war widows are confronting as a consequence of the New Veterans Charter. The impact a potential 300 million dollar cut to VACs budget is enormous, please, the only way we can prevent this travesty is to convince the government that Canada's Sons and Daughters are a national treasure, above debt induced austerity programs.

**Parliament Hill Veterans Pilgrimage.** The CVA's objective is to provide a national platform wherein veterans and serving members can respectfully assemble on Parliament Hill to draw public attention to the primary issues responsible for the profound injustices our wounded warriors are encountering today. Several leading veterans advocates have been invited to speak to these issues, patriots such as Sean Bruyey, an outspoken critic of the New Veterans Charter prior to its enactment and our cornerstone speaker last year. We are very optimistic that Sean will once again add his voice to ours. Kenneth Young, a long time advocate for justice for all Agent Orange Victims, has confirmed that he will be traveling from British Columbia to speak about the government's grotesquely exclusive compensation program. Eric Rebiere, a staunch advocate for RCMP and law enforcement officers who have served abroad, will be joining us from Kingston to speak to the problems of the VRAB. Perry Gray, an outspoken critic of the government's treatment of veterans and editor of VVinfo and Dave Desjardins and his support dog Molly will, we hope, join Dennis Manuge, an independent veterans advocate who has taken the lead of the SISIP Clawback legal front!

It is important to note that the expense of travel is being born by each individual, that we believe that our quest is so important that they would travel from coast to coast at great expense to themselves. Please, if you live in the Ottawa valley, serving, retired or a civilian supporter, please, join us on Parliament Hill this year at the Tower of Peace and Victory chimes in the eleventh hour. Bring your wife, your children, ask your parents, brothers and sisters, friends and colleagues to demonstrate the values of this nation are worth fighting for with respect, dignity and courage. We are Canadian! We stand up for our Canadian Troops! We will make a difference!

**Team Calgary-** Prime Minister Steven Harper's office. Klaus Rimke, aka Kaiser, President, 3rd CAV has stepped forth to carry the torch as Team Leader in Calgary and we are encouraging all veterans/patriots in Alberta to take advantage of this opportunity to join Team Calgary as we respectfully assemble in front of Mr Harper's riding office on November 5th, 2011.

**VAC HQ Protest** - Charlottetown, PEI. FRIDAY, Nov 4 TBA Veterans Advocate Sandy Brace (ret) has volunteered to take the lead in Charlottetown and we are encouraging veterans in PEI and the adjacent provinces to make an effort to support him in front of VAC Headquarters on Friday afternoon, 4 Nov, 2011. Be advised that our message is directed at the government, not to those who serve at Veterans Affairs Canada and the choice of this location is to demonstrate our profound displeasure over the proposed 150-300 million dollars budget cuts to VAC's budget, the discriminative consequences of Bill C=55 as it relates to our WW2, Korean and peacekeeping veterans and the profound inadequacies of the New Veterans Charter.



## Canadian Veterans National Day of Protest 2011 – 1100 hrs, November 5th , 2011 Update (con'td)



**Team Halifax.** Team Leader Gary Zwicker has been very active and has secured permits assemble for veterans to assemble at the War Memorial in Halifax. Attendees of last year's protest will recall the torrential rains that adversely affected participation and will be pleased to note that Gary has arranged an alternative indoor site should there be inclement weather. He has invited many speakers and we are encouraging Maritimers to travel to the Halifax for the day if there is no rally planned for your MP's riding office to support this capital project. Bring your pennies!

**Team Fredricton/ Gagetown.** Veterans Advocate Tom Beaver has taking a unique approach and is seeking permission to hold a informational based rally at the gates of CFB Gagetown. We are encouraging wives and family members to support Tom's effort! We are fighting so that you and your family will not have to confront these substandard policies should tragic misfortune befall your family.

Other events are scheduled at St John's and Gander in Newfoundland. Montreal and Quebec City in Quebec, Kingston, Trenton, London, Wallaceburg, Sarnia and Parry Sound in Ontario., Selkirk and I hope a soon to be confirmed Winnipeg in Manitoba. Victoria and Chilliwack, where we had an outstanding turnout last year are heading up BC. Details on each event's location and plans will be posted in upcoming newsletters.



## CANADIAN VETERANS' ADVOCACY - MEETING ON THE HILL (05 Nov 2011)

By Billy Willbond

Ottawa City, that's a long journey from Saanichton, B.C.  
I'd love to be there to support our wounded suffering PTSD.  
I've a clawed back Army pension and I don't have the dough.  
Or I'd fly there with huge banners, to Bytown, I would go!

Gone are those days of the Canadian Veterans' Land Act.  
My Dad was helped by VAC as from the war he came back.  
He was wounded three times over in the front lines.  
His nerves were real bad and he suffered hard times.

Our new batch of wounded from the Afghanistan war.  
Won't get a medical pension they don't do that no more.  
Many who will soon suffer OSI afflictions in days to come.  
Were sent out the gate with a cheque called a "lump sum".

I have a new MP this year. Her name is Elizabeth May.  
She'll back Canada's Veterans! That's what she did say.  
Thank you Peter Stoffer, for working on the claw back.  
We saw the great work you did when we watched CPAC.

God bless all of you veterans who parade on the Hill to-day.  
My thoughts are there with you and for your success, I pray.  
I hope that the head shed and the good folks down at VAC.  
Give pensions to our wounded-lump sums they don't need!

William Willbond  
Canadian Soldier Poet  
<http://iwvpa.net/willbondwha/dads-sha.php>



## CANADIAN VETERANS' ADVOCACY Contact Information

### Mailing Address/Email/Telephone:

Attn: Michael L Blais CD  
6618 Harper Drive,  
Niagara Falls, Ontario

[info@canadianveteransadvocacy.com](mailto:info@canadianveteransadvocacy.com)

905-357-3306

### Canadian Veterans Advocacy Internet links.

The CVA provides a full spectrum of internet communications including sites at popular social networks such as Facebook and Twitter. We also have a dedicated website, a blog and a message board that has generated great interest amongst the veterans community (273000 page views, 155 days of operation/ 47 countries, 503 cities) compliments of the vast array of information provided in reference to VAC entitlements, ongoing missions and Team Leader updates reference the 2nd Canadian Veterans National Day of Protest.

Facebook      <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CdnVetsAdvocacy/>

Twitter        <http://twitter.com/#!/CdnVetsAdvocacy>

Message Brd   <http://canadianveteransadvocacy.com/board/index.php>

CVA Website   <http://www.canadianveteransadvocacy.com/index.html>