Media Report 05 July 2019, 1 of 2

This report continues our NVOC National President, Mr Randy Stowell focus on his or her Long Term Care for the Veteran and their Family.

This weeks media reports will cover Long-Term Care and Palliative Care For Veterans, Community Facilities – Intermediate Care For Veterans, Adult Residential Care in Community Facilities For Veterans and The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre.

The info in this report will give the Families and our Senior Veterans the information required to keep living a dignified retirement either in their home or at a Health Care Facility.

Long-Term Care and Palliative Care For Veterans

Do you require 24-hour personal and nursing care on a short-term or long-term basis? We can provide financial support to qualifying Veterans for the cost of this care.

About this program

All health systems in Canada provide some level of long-term care support in provincially licensed or regulated facilities.

Financial support from Veterans Affairs Canada may be available when you have been admitted to 24-hour care in a community bed (available to any provincial resident) or contract bed (only available to Second World War or Korean War Veterans).

The assessment process and admission to long-term care facilities is managed by your provincial, regional, or local health authority. Please contact the agency responsible for long-term care in your province or territory:

- <u>Alberta</u>
- British Columbia
- Manitoba
- New Brunswick
- Newfoundland and Labrador
- Northwest Territories

- Nova Scotia
- Nunavut
- Ontario
- · Prince Edward Island
- Quebec
- Saskatchewan
- Yukon

Do you qualify?

If you have been admitted to a long-term care facility, you may qualify for and should apply for financial assistance if you served in the Canadian Armed Forces and have:

- a low income,
- · a service-related disability, or
- a health need for long-term care.

How to apply

Before you apply

Before you apply for financial assistance from Veterans Affairs Canada, you must first be admitted to a long-term care facility.

Apply online

If you are registered for My VAC Account, you can submit your application for this benefit online. If you aren't registered, you can <u>register now</u>.

Mail or in person

Download the <u>application package</u> (VAC1503APe). Then, drop it off at a <u>VAC</u> <u>office</u>. You can also mail your completed form directly to the address listed on the form.

Get help with your application

The staff at any <u>VAC office</u> can assist you, or call us at 1-866-522-2122.

Note for legal representatives: Include a copy of the document that shows you to be the legal representative (e.g. Power of Attorney). If you have previously provided this, you do not need to send it again.

Additional information

Related programs

<u>Treatment Benefits</u> - Coverage for medical and health related services.

<u>Veterans Independence Program</u> - Payments for home and health care services that you need to remain independent at home.

War Veterans Allowance - Monthly payments if you have a low household income.

Frequently asked questions

What is the maximum a Veteran must pay toward their long-term care accommodation costs?

Effective October 1, 2018, the maximum accommodation and meals monthly amount paid by a Veteran is \$1,039.48. Any supplementary charges such as the costs of semi-private or private rooms are not part of this calculation.

Do some Veterans pay less than the maximum amount?

Veterans who are admitted to care as a direct result of a condition for which they are in receipt of a disability benefit are not required to pay toward their long-term care. Also, Veterans may have a reduced contribution if they are married or have a lower income.

Where can I find the policies for this program?

Read the policies related to the long-term care program.

Palliative Care For Veterans

Issuing Authority: Director General, Policy

Effective Date: May 18, 2012

Document ID: 1237

Care has been taken to ensure these policies accurately reflect the acts and regulations. Should any inconsistencies be found, the acts and regulations will prevail.

Purpose

This policy provides direction on the approval of health care benefits, Veterans Independence Program (VIP) services, and long term care (LTC) to support clients who are eligible under the <u>Veterans Health Care Regulations</u> (VHCR) and require palliative care.

Policy

Definition

1. Palliative care, for the purpose of this policy, is defined as care provided to a client who has been diagnosed, by his/her physician, to be in the last stages of life with a current medical prognosis of three months or less. The primary objective of this care is to make the client more comfortable at home. The authorization of palliative care should not be taken as a basis or approval for making substantial changes to the home (making it, in effect, a health care facility).

General

2. Generally, palliative care is provided through provincial or municipal

programs in a facility setting such as long term care, an acute care hospital, or in a specific unit of a health care facility that is designated as a palliative care unit. Increasingly, palliative care is being provided in a home setting, by a spouse or primary caregiver. Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) may supplement those provincial/municipal programs and services through a combination of treatment benefits, VIP services, and long term care admission, with services designed to meet the unique needs of each client.

Eligibility

3. Only those individuals who have eligibility under the VHCR are entitled to receive benefits, services and/or care for palliative purposes. Benefits are available in accordance with the eligibility criteria outlined in <u>Eligibility for Health Care Programs – Eligible Client Groups</u>, and the specifications set out in the VAC <u>benefit grids</u> and/or Departmental guidelines/directives.

Palliative Care at Home

- 4. It is generally neither the intention, nor the mandate of the Department to provide benefits, services and/or care in the home to a client with Type III health needs. However, in the case of a terminally-ill person who wishes to die at home, it may be reasonable to provide the required benefits, services and/or care for a period of three months or less if:
 - 1. There is a letter from the treating family physician indicating that the client and/or family has been counseled on the risks of dying at home;
 - 2. The care can be appropriately and cost-effectively delivered in the home environment;
 - 3. The type and amount of professional care and supervision required are available;
 - 4. The impact on the spouse or primary caregiver is fully considered; and
 - 5. There is a contingency plan for admission to a facility, should circumstances change.
- 5. A palliative care plan must be developed, to ensure that a client is supported to the extent to which it is appropriate, and to which he/she is eligible for VAC benefits, services and/or care. The care plan should be developed in conjunction with a provincial and/or municipal palliative care program and should consider all aspects of the client's well being, as well as ensuring sufficient support for the spouse or primary caregiver.
- 6. The care plan must be developed in conjunction with, or consideration of, any available provincial and/or municipal palliative care services. It should address all aspects of the client's well-being, as well as ensure sufficient support for the spouse or primary caregiver.

7. The care plan must meet the client's needs for comfort and support, by incorporating physical, psychosocial and/or spiritual support. As appropriate, it should provide for a multi-disciplinary team, including physicians, nurses, social workers and clergy, who work together with the client, the client's family, and other caregivers.

Program Limitations

- 8. All parameters within the current policies concerning health care benefits, VIP services and long term care apply. For example:
 - 1. A client who is normally required to pay an accommodation and meals contribution must still do so when receiving facility-based care for palliative purposes;
 - 2. A client receiving Attendance Allowance is limited to 59 days of VIP personal care services per calendar year.

Non-eligible Clients Requiring Palliative Care

9. In the event that a client is not eligible for any VAC benefits, VAC staff can help the client by coordinating access to available community resources

Approval/Authorities/Financial Limits

10. The approval of funding must be consistent with the health care benefits, VIP and LTC authorities, as well as the policies on Contribution Arrangements and Exceeding Rates, if applicable.

References

<u>Veterans Health Care Regulations</u>, sections 2, 3, 4, 6, 15, 19, 21, 22 and 34 <u>Eligibility for Health Care Programs – Eligible Client Groups</u>

Everything You Need To Know About The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre

Long Term Care http://www.perleyrideau.ca/long-term-care

Specialized Veterans Unit http://www.perleyrideau.ca/specialized-veterans-unit

Convalescent Care http://www.perleyrideau.ca/convalescent-care

Village Services http://www.perleyrideau.ca/village-services

Assisted Living Services https://www.perleyrideau.ca/assisted-living-services

Frailty-Informed Care https://www.perleyrideau.ca/frailty-informed-care

<u>Veterans Affairs Canada Toll-Free Line Struggling To Answer Calls | HuffPost Canada</u>

https://www.huffingtonpost.ca/entry/veterans-affair-canada-phonecall ca 5d1ba4fee4b03d61164374f1? ncid=other email o63gt2jcad4&utm campaign=share email

Canada extends command NATO Mission in Iraq

Canadian Military Family Magazine

Canadian Armed Forces will continue to command NATO Mission Iraq (NMI) for a second year, until Nov. 2020, announced Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan recently. To lead the troops in this second year, BGen. Jennie Carignan will take command of NATO Mission Iraq in the fall of this year and be promoted to the rank of MGen. Carignan assumes command from MGen. Dany Fortin, the current commander since Nov. 2018. **READ MORE**

Plongeur de combat : une sélection unique

Journal Adsum

Près de vingt candidats se sont frottés à la sélection du cours de plongeur de combat du 5e Régiment du génie de combat (5 RGC). La sélection, qui s'est déroulée en juin pendant deux semaines, comportait des épreuves qui ont repoussé les limites des participants. **LIRE PLUS**

Canadian Government invests in Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative

Canadian Military Family Magazine

To further the cause of preventing the recruitment and use of child soldiers, the Department of National Defence will be pouring \$1.175 million over the next five years to the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative, announced the Minister of National Defence Harjit Sajjan. Additionally, the Canadian Armed Forces, in partnership with the Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative, will be creating a Dallaire Centre of Excellence for Peace and Security, within the Canadian Defence Academy. **READ MORE**

RCMP busy with thefts, mortar discovery, assault, arrests, more

Fernie Free Press

On June 11, RCMP came into possession of a live Korean War era mortar round which was seized and secured with no risk to the public. **READ MORE**

Justin Trudeau promet son soutien à l'Ukraine face à la « menace » russe

La Presse

Le premier ministre canadien Justin Trudeau a promis de soutenir l'Ukraine face à la « menace » russe, au terme d'une rencontre avec le président ukrainien Volodymyr Zelensky à Toronto. « Dans la foulée de l'agression russe et de ses tentatives de miner la souveraineté de l'Ukraine, y compris par l'annexion illégale de la Crimée, il est important pour des pays comme le Canada de se tenir aux côtés de leur partenaire », a déclaré M. Trudeau lors d'une conférence de presse avec le président ukrainien. LIRE PLUS

CAF breaks ground for new headquarters building in Latvia

Canadian Military Family Magazine

The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) recently held a groundbreaking ceremony signalling the beginning of construction for the new headquarters for Task Force Latvia, near the Latvian National Armed Forces' Joint Headquarters in Riga, Latvia. The Latvian Task Force Headquarters proves national command and control for CAF troops deployed in Latvia with the Forward Presence Battle Group Latvia (eFP). **READ MORE**

Canada donates \$3.75 million to UN activities of clearing mines in Iraq

Xinhua

The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) said recently that the government of Canada has donated about \$3.75 million to support efforts and activities of the organization in Iraq. A statement by UNMAS said "the presence of explosive hazards, including improvised explosive devices in areas retaken from the Islamic State (IS) group, continues to endanger the lives of women, men, boys, and girls and hinder the return of displaced communities." **READ MORE**

