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## **President's Comment.**

### **Battle of Britain**

**15 September**, also known as Battle of Britain Day, is now an annual commemoration of the battle in the United Kingdom. In Canada, the commemoration takes place on the third Sunday of September. This year, it will be September 20, 2020.

The Battle of Britain, between July 10 and October 31, 1940, was a significant chapter in Canada's military history during World War II, the successful defense of Great Britain against unremitting and destructive air raids conducted by the German air force (Luftwaffe) from July through September 1940, after the fall of France. Victory for the Luftwaffe in the air battle would have exposed Great Britain to invasion by the German army, which was then in control of the ports of France only a few miles away across the English Channel. In the event, the battle was won by the Royal Air Force (RAF) Fighter Command, whose victory not only blocked the possibility of invasion but also created the conditions for Great Britain's survival, for the extension of the war, and for the eventual defeat of Nazi Germany.

Historians have noted that the Battle of Britain was the first crucial air battle of the Second World War. Seen as a turning point in the war, the Battle of Britain and the efforts of the Air Force prevented the Germans from sweeping the Allies from Western Europe and kept the torch of freedom burning at a time when the enemy had conquered nation after nation on the continent. Canadians serving with the Royal Air Force and the Royal Canadian Air Force fought with valour to help in the defence of Britain and nobly defend the values we continue to cherish and protect today.

When it became clear that the Royal Air Force could not be defeated, the battle drew to a close. Canadians, together with British and other Allied forces, saved Britain from invasion and helped pave the way for the liberation of Europe later in the war.

As Canadians, we must stand together to ensure these heroes are never forgotten. We must honor the contributions our service men and women have made and continue to make in the name of freedom. They



represent the very best of what it means to be Canadian. Today, we remember the Canadian heroes of the Battle of Britain.”

In the past 70 years, ceremonies were held across the country to commemorate the anniversary of this crucial air battle. This year, due to the Covid 19 pandemic, public ceremonies will not take place, but we will remember. Next year, with God’s blessing, we will have a revamped ceremony.

**In lieu of a parade, the 700 Wing RCAF will present a public lecture on 17 September(Thursday). See invitation below:**

In light of recent decisions that the air cadets are not to gather in person until Oct 1 and recent Edmonton COVID counts on the rise, 700 Wing is electing to cancel the Battle of Britain Parade this year.

It is place we will be having a public lecture on Thursday Sept 17, 7pm for 7:30pm at the Alberta Aviation Museum with historian John Chalmers. COVID spacing and protocols will be applied. Max 50 people allowed. I hope you will be able to join us.

Sincerely,  
David Jackson  
Chair of the Board of Directors  
700 Wing RCAF Association



**Thank you for your Services – Your Honour, Lieutenant Governor Lois Mitchell. Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta has retired. As such, will no longer be the patron of EUSI. We are in the process to renew this relationship with the new Lieutenant Governor. More to follow.**



## High Flight

And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;  
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth

Of sun-split clouds—and done a hundred things  
You have not dreamed of  
—wheeled and soared and swung  
High in the sunlit silence; hov'ring there,  
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung  
My eager craft through footless halls of air.  
Up, Up the long, delirious, burning blue  
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace  
Where never lark, or even eagle flew—  
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod  
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,  
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.  
Commonwealth Air Forces Ottawa Memorial



Get trained!

**HUMOUR – Submitted by the incorrigible, politically incorrect, Sgt AE Bince, Korean Veteran.**

## Catholic Horses.

One day while he was at the track playing the ponies and all but losing his shirt, Mitch noticed a priest who stepped out onto the track and blessed the forehead of one of the horses lining up for the 4th race.

Lo and behold, that horse – a very long shot - won the race..

Before the next race, as the horses began lining up, Mitch watched with interest the old priest step onto the track. Sure enough, as the 5th race horses came to the starting gate the priest made a blessing on the forehead of one of the horses.

Mitch made a beeline for a betting window and placed a small bet on the horse. Again, even though it was another long shot, the horse the priest had blessed won the race.

Mitch collected his winnings, and anxiously waited to see which horse the priest would bless for the 6th race. The priest again blessed a horse.

Mitch bet big on it, and it won. Mitch was elated.. As the races continued the priest kept blessing long shot horses, and each one ended up coming in first.

Bye and bye, Mitch was pulling in some serious money. By the last race, he knew his wildest dreams were going to come true. He made a quick dash to the ATM, withdrew all his savings, and awaited the priest's blessing that would tell him which horse to bet on.

True to his pattern, the priest stepped onto the track for the last race and blessed the forehead of an old nag that was the longest shot of the day. Mitch also observed the priest blessing the eyes, ears and hooves of the old nag.

Mitch knew he had a winner and bet every cent he owned on the old nag.

He then watched dumbfounded as the old nag come in dead last. Mitch, in a state of shock, made his way down to the track area where the priest was.

Confronting the old priest he demanded, 'Father! What happened?

All day long you blessed horses and they all won. Then in the last race, the horse you blessed lost by a Kentucky mile. Now, thanks to you I've lost every cent of my savings - all of it!'

The priest nodded wisely and with sympathy.. 'Son,' he said, 'that's the problem with you Protestants, you can't tell the difference between a simple blessing and last rites'



## **SPECIAL COVID-19 NEWS RELEASE FOR VETERANS**

### **Media Report**

This media report will be posted on our website. Go to <http://www.natoveterans.org/news> and click on News – Current News."

This week's media reports will cover and answer great questions veterans are still asking such as Frequently asked questions regarding COVID-19 in Ottawa. Due to ongoing and evolving COVID-19 pandemic, callers may experience increased wait times when calling the Government of Canada Pension Center. Callers may also experience dropped calls, as all telecommunication networks across Canada are presently facing capacity challenges. 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

## Treatment benefits

About this program

If you qualify for the Treatment Benefits program, you will receive a VAC healthcare card.

This healthcare card provides coverage for such things as home health or hospital services, nursing services, appointments with specialists (such as physiotherapists, audiologists, and mental health providers), medical equipment, prosthetics, and prescriptions.

The extent of your coverage will depend on a number of factors, including how you qualified, your health needs and your individual circumstances.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have made temporary changes to the Treatment Benefits program to ensure you receive the treatment and services you need. [Learn more](#).

- **Do I qualify?**

You will qualify for healthcare coverage and receive a VAC healthcare card if you qualify for:

- a [disability benefit](#),
  - the [Veterans Independence Program](#),
  - the [War Veterans Allowance](#), or
  - financial assistance from VAC for [long-term care](#).
- **How to apply**

You do not need to apply for the treatment benefits program or for a VAC healthcare card. A card will be sent directly to you after you have received one of the benefits listed above.

If you are a still-serving member of the Canadian Armed Forces or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, you will typically receive your card after you release from service as [these benefits will be provided by your home organization](#), not by VAC.

## Get help

If you have questions about your health coverage or about VAC's treatment benefits program, visit any [VAC office](#) or call us at 1-866-522-2122. You can also contact [Medavie Blue Cross](#).

- **Additional information**

### Quick links

- [How to use your VAC healthcare card](#)
- [Reimbursement](#)
- [Coverage details](#)
- [Frequencies and dollar limits](#)
- [Medavie Blue Cross online](#)
- [Health-related travel](#)
- [Currently serving in the military or RCMP?](#)
- [Related programs](#)



## How to use your VAC healthcare card

Often, you only need to show your VAC card to the provider of your choice to receive health benefits or services.

The provider may also need to see your prescription from your doctor or health professional and receive pre-authorization from VAC before they can provide the benefit or service to you.

- Prescription – A prescription is valid for one year from the date on it. It confirms you are under the care of a health care professional and details their recommended therapy for your health need. To learn who can provide a prescription, see the section – Prescriber Required – in that benefit's details of the [Benefit Grid](#).
- Pre-Authorization - To find if pre-authorization is needed, see the section – Pre-authorization Required – in that benefit's details found in the Benefit Grid. Your provider can [contact us](#) (or Medavie Blue Cross at 1-866-811-6060) for pre-authorization. Most services will only need pre-authorization once.

Using a registered provider – A registered provider can bill Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) directly so you do not need to pay out of pocket. To find registered providers in your area, please [contact us](#) or use your [Medavie Blue Cross account](#).

Using any other provider – You may have to pay this provider for their services and then seek reimbursement from VAC.

Please note: we may not be able to reimburse the cost of services you purchased prior to having pre-authorization.

## Reimbursement

To receive reimbursement, you need to send your request within 18 months from the date you received the treatment benefit or service. The provider must be:

- licensed or certified by your province or territory; or
- where no provincial or territorial regulations exist, they must meet requirements set by VAC.

To receive reimbursement, you will need to submit your proof of payment (original receipt or invoice) that shows:

- the date you received the benefit or service;
- the name of the benefit or service;
- the amount you paid; and,
- the name and address of the provider.

You can submit your request through your secure account at [www.medavie.bluecross.ca/MyInfo](http://www.medavie.bluecross.ca/MyInfo) or [download the form](#) and mail it to:

National Reimbursement Centre  
PO Box 6700  
Moncton, NB E1C 0T8

Sign up for [Direct Deposit](#) to receive your reimbursements directly into your bank account.

## Coverage details

## Programs of Choice

Read the overview of each of the fourteen (14) health care benefits programs, known as the [programs of choice](#), provided by Veterans Affairs Canada

## Benefit grids

The [Benefit Grids](#) are a resource for both providers and recipients. This national database shows the requirements for benefits and services available within the fourteen (14) programs of choice, except for dental (POC 4), medical (POC 6) and prescription drugs (POC 10).

Dental and medical professionals can contact Medavie Blue Cross whenever they have questions about coverage.

The [drug formulary](#) is a database of prescription medicines (POC 10) covered by Veterans Affairs Canada.

## Frequencies and dollar limits

There are frequency and dollar limits for most benefits. To determine if your benefit has any, view that benefit's details in the [Benefit Grid](#).

You, your doctor or your health professional should [contact us](#) if your prescribed treatment will exceed these limits.

## Medavie Blue Cross online

Through your secure account at [www.medavie.bluecross.ca/MyInfo](http://www.medavie.bluecross.ca/MyInfo), you can:

- Find a list of registered providers;
- Find claim forms and other documents;
- View your claim status, explanations, and claims archive;
- Find your coverage details; and
- Request a replacement card (or print a temporary card).

## Health-related travel

Your VAC health card is valid everywhere in Canada. However, before traveling to another province, we recommend that you [call us](#) for advice on how to get services outside of your home province. If the provider in that province will not accept your card as payment, you may have to pay for the benefit and then request reimbursement from VAC.

Please note: if you are traveling outside of Canada, health providers in other countries will not accept your card as payment.

## Reimbursement

We can cover eligible travel expenses to receive benefits or services in Canada. Learn more about reimbursement for [health-related travel](#).

## Find out more

### Currently serving in the military or RCMP?

If you have qualified for a disability benefit, your health services will be provided by your home organization until you release from service, except for Class A or Class B (180 days or less) Reservists whose health services will be provided by VAC.

## What to do when you are releasing:

- Canadian Armed Forces members – please ensure your discharge documents have been provided to your Health Services Centre (CF H Svcs C). Incorrect release date information can delay your access to VAC's treatment benefits.
- RCMP members – please [contact us](#) to provide your discharge date.

Note: If you are a member of the RCMP, with prior service in the Canadian Armed Forces, and receive a disability benefit related to your CAF service, your health coverage for that condition will be provided by VAC, not the RCMP. Please contact us if you experience any difficulty accessing your coverage.

## Related programs

[Disability benefits](#): compensation to recognize that your injury or illness is a result of your service.

[Veterans Independence Program](#): Payments for home and health care services that you need to remain independent at home.

[Long-term care](#): Monthly payments to cover the cost of your long-term care.

[War Veterans allowance](#): Monthly payments if you have a low household income.

- **Frequently asked questions**

### Can I appeal any decision VAC makes about my treatment benefits?

Yes. If you are not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to request a review. There are two levels of review.

- First Level Review – The decision letter (or your explanation of benefits document) indicates how to submit a request for a first level review.
- Final Review – The decision letter for your first level review will indicate how to request a final (known as a second level) review.

### Does my provider need to call VAC for pre-authorization each year, even if I am requesting the same benefit or service?

For most benefits and services, VAC only requires pre-authorization the first time you obtain a benefit or service. However, certain benefits require pre-authorization each time you request the benefit. The [Benefit Grid](#) can help your provider determine which requirements apply to their service.

### Can I choose any supplier or provider of treatment benefits and services?

You may obtain treatment benefits and services from a supplier or provider of your choice who meets VAC provider requirements. [Contact us](#) or Medavie Blue Cross if you have any questions regarding these provider requirements.

**Are there policies for this program?** Yes. Read more about the [policies for Veterans](#).



## IN THE NEWS

Retirement of Gen. Jonathan Vance, Chief of Defence Staff, in August, 2020. Replacement has not been announced.



City of Edmonton creates list to track homeless veterans – This initiative has been ongoing and is operational. In addition, a plot of land in the 153 Avenue and 90 Street area has been approved for construction for homeless veterans.

Due to mandate reviews and Covid 19, the Edmonton Salutes Committee has stood down for nine months, but is expected to stand to again shortly. The Current President of EUSI was the Chairman for ESC for the last three years and the EUSI is a founding member as well as a voting member of the Committee. I will be appointing a board member to represent EUSI at the ESC once it is stand to again. More to follow.



## Not Canadian but should be

Proposed COVID-19 Relief Package Includes \$2.2B for Shipbuilding, 4 Hospital Ships

<https://news.usni.org/2020/07/28/gop-covid-19-relief-package-includes-2-2b-for-shipbuilding-4-hospital-ships>

Hospital ships are being employed by a number of states for 'medical diplomacy' in addition to traditional humanitarian assistance/disaster response missions. Useful employment. The US hospital ships COMFORT and MERCY are meant for major conflict service so are somewhat too much for how they have been used in the last decades. 'Expeditionary medical ships,' which by the look of the graphic in the article are smaller, would be of greater use, especially as there would be more of them.

Hospital ships are too much for a lesser naval power like Canada. One or more multi-role ships with a medical capability could be useful builds/buys for us. Replenishment oilers of the Royal Canadian Navy (currently the leased ASTERIX and in the future the purpose-built Protecteur-class) are limited in.





SECURITAS.

*Alexander Tsang CD*

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**IT IS TOO LATE TO SHARPEN SWORDS, WHEN THE DRUMS OF WAR ARE BEATING**

It is now over six months since the declaration of pandemic and movement and liberty restrictions. There is no prediction when Phase 3 will be implemented. Hopefully, with students returning to school, we will be able to see more clearly the preventive measures proposed will be effective. Thus far, all measures have been preventive and defensive. Our governments have not think outside the box to attack this virus and efforts to develop a vaccine is delayed again and again due to bureaucratic and political snags. Stay safe and your patience will see results. In God we trust.