

## THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL HALIFAX TOURNAMENT YOUR IMPACT IN 2019

CONTRIBUTIONS TO END HOMELESSNESS: \$100,000

VETS Canada's aim is to seek out and provide immediate, on the ground assistance to Veterans of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and RCMP who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. They envision a world where veterans receive all of the support they need to make a successful transition from their service to civilian life.

Working within the community, VETS Canada members attempt to move veterans from the streets or shelters into affordable housing. They also connect veterans with needed health care, access to benefits and services from other organizations, and support them in finding suitable employment.VETS Canada's volunteers support these veterans every step of the way and do everything possible to help them re-establish themselves.



## **VETS CANADA:** THE VETERAN DROP-IN AND SUPPORT CENTRE

The first HHTH Halifax tournament held in 2018 raised \$50,000 for VETS Canada, which allowed them to open the first Drop-in Support Centre in Dartmouth. With the funds from the 2019 tournament, VETS Canada will continue the operation of the Drop-in Support Centre and expand some of the existing supports.

Located at 170 Ochterlony Street in Dartmouth, the centre provides immediate aid and comfort to Canadian veterans that are in-crisis, are at risk of becoming homeless, or are homeless. They focus on providing support and services in five key pillar areas: emergency assistance, financial, housing, employment, and community services support. With trained social services personnel and veteran peer volunteers on-site, the centre is also a place where they can use the veteran's resource centre and library, utilize computers to conduct employment, housing searches, and creating resumes, as well as get a coffee or a bite to eat. Access to supports is important to help veterans maintain their relationships and mental health, find civilian employment, manage injuries and illnesses, and reduce social isolation by socializing with other veterans.

Since opening the centre, VETS Canada has helped nearly 200 veterans in-crisis in the Halifax Area. Over 1,500 homeless veterans and veterans in-crisis have been supported by VETS Canada throughout Nova Scotia since 2014.

"VETS CANADA AND THE VETERANS WE SERVE THROUGH THE DROP-IN CENTRE WOULD LIKE TO THANK HHTH FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT AND CONTINUED SUPPORT INTO THE FUTURE."

- JIM & DEBBIE LOWTHER. FOUNDERS OF VETS CANADA







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