

From: Eric Depenau <depenaue1@outlook.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 21, 2024 11:13 PM
To: Mayor and Council <MayorandCouncil@districtofmackenzie.ca>
Subject: Support our Troops Update

Hello Mayor Atkinson, members of Council,

Thank you for your recent review of the Support our Troops license plate program and for sharing information about the ongoing ICBC survey on district media.

I am writing to provide you with copies of recent support letters received, including those from the local MLA and MP. As well, please find updated statistics about the program attached. Should the District of Mackenzie wish to supply a similar support letter, it would be most appreciated, and we would be sure to put it to good use with continued advocacy.

Again, thank you for your time and consideration.

Eric Depenau



Support Our Troops

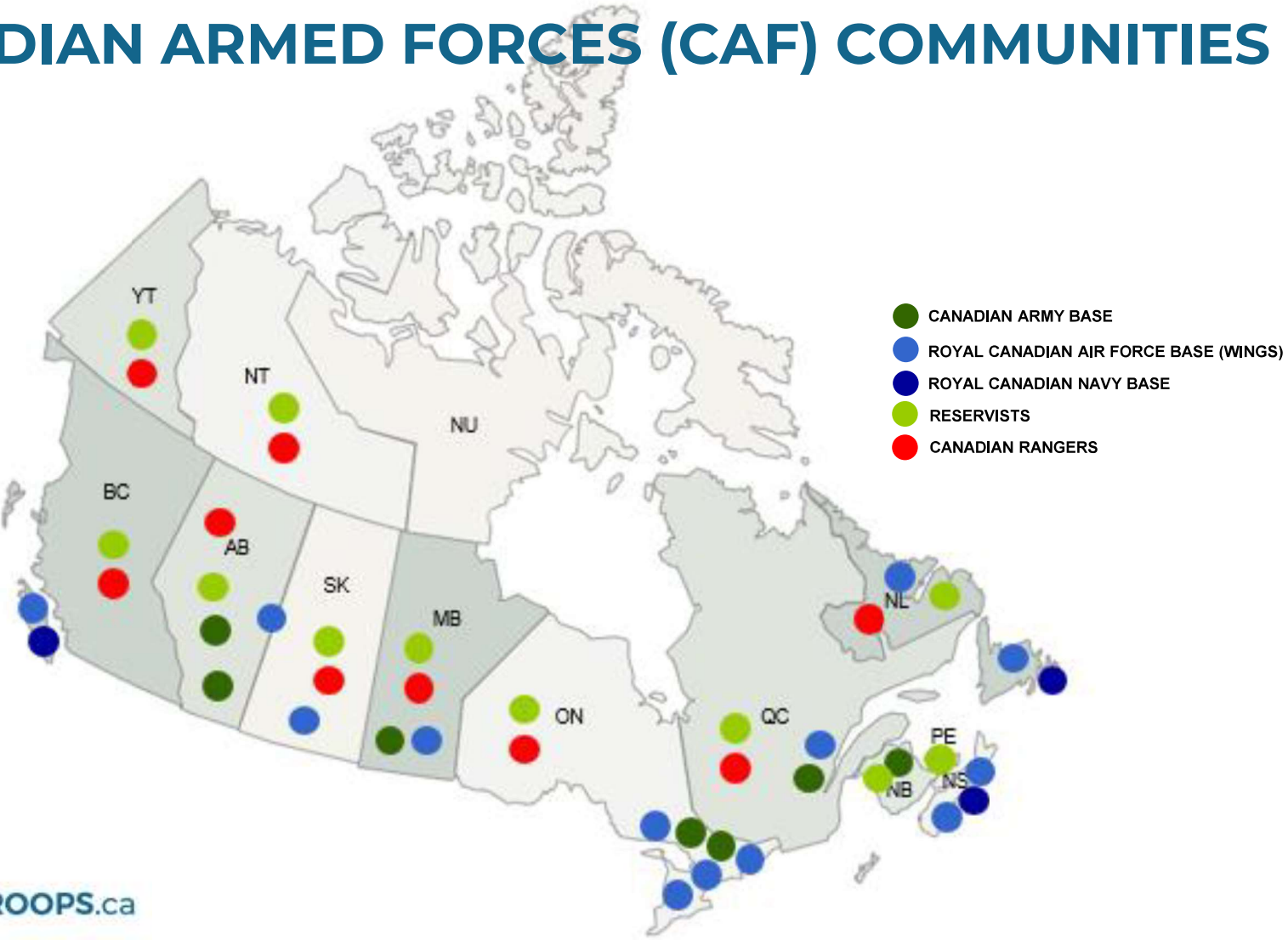
British Columbia

Scott V.J. Johnson
January 2024



CANADIAN ARMED FORCES (CAF) COMMUNITIES

| Total CAF Community across Canada | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Ontario | 85,801 |
| Alberta | 27,693 |
| Manitoba | 14,062 |
| Nova Scotia | 12,922 |
| Newfoundland | 6,605 |
| Quebec | 3,933 |
| British Columbia | 7,137 |
| Northwest Territories | 1,177 |
| Prince Edward Island | 895 |
| New Brunswick | 1,777 |
| Saskatchewan | 1,091 |
| Total | 163,093 |



Support Our Troops, The Official Charitable Cause of the Canadian Armed Forces

SERVING CANADIAN ARMED FORCES MEMBER

- ✓ Regular Force Members
- ✓ Reserve Force Members

VETERAN

- ✓ Former Regular or Reserve Force member released from the Canadian Armed Forces.

FAMILY

- ✓ The member's spouse or common-law partner who resides with the member;
- ✓ Those living apart as a result of military deployment/tasking;
- ✓ Children and dependents;
- ✓ Families of the fallen.



Why do we support?

Challenges of the Military Family

Our Canadian military are on the front lines for us whenever and wherever called, whether in foreign locations, or domestically.

Even the “easiest” military lifestyle can be a challenging one that experiences constant geographic relocations, long periods of absence (deployments and/or training) and the concerns around having a loved one with a “high risk” job.

It is often the children of our military members who suffer the greatest and have a higher propensity for anxiety, loneliness, special need requirements and overall uncertainty.

Operational readiness is something that we constantly strive to provide through the various support mechanisms we provide to our military members and their families.



Give Support

- ✓ Your support and partnership will help meet the extraordinary challenges faced by members of the Canadian Armed Forces community and their families as a result of military service.



Programs you can support

- ✓ Ill and Injured Support
- ✓ National Scholarship Program
- ✓ Financial Assistance Program
- ✓ National Youth Camps Program
- ✓ Special Needs Program
- ✓ Boomer's Legacy
- ✓ OSISS (Occupational Stress Injuries)



2020-2021 Support Our Troops Year in Review

Impact from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021

7,800 Military members and families supported **\$3.2M** raised by generous Canadians



133

Military families with a child with special needs received funding



400

Military families accessed programs and services in support of enhanced mental health and well-being



2,105

Operational Stress Injury Social Support Program



192

Military children went to summer camp



549

Military families received support through the License Plate Program



129

Were offered support while in hospital



75

Scholarships awarded to Military spouses and dependents



458

Military spouses attended entrepreneurship and employment training



372

Military families received emergency financial assistance



\$154,800

Disbursed through the Holiday Hamper Program to assist up to 871 families



SUPPORTOURTROOPS.ca

Impact from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022

7,712 Military members and families supported
\$4.9M distributed through grants, loans and the funding of various programs

Support for our Canadian Armed Forces members, Veterans, and their families

We work to improve the lives of military members and their families by providing financial assistance to promote family resiliency and support Veterans and serving members who may have an illness or injury through a variety of grants and programs. Examples of the support we have provided over the last year include:



167 members

with a child with special needs received support

\$145K



in funding to assist families with raising a child with exceptionalities.



174 members

assisted through an Emergency Grant providing financial support during an immediate financial distress situation.



\$200,000

received from SISIP Financial to ensure members of the CAF community received support they needed through the Emergency Grant Program.



216 members

received support with scholarships and employment assistance through provincial license plate programs.



239 military spouses

attended entrepreneurship and employment training.

273 military dependents

enjoyed summer camp for the eighth annual National Summer Camps Program.



766 military Families

assisted through the Holiday Hamper Program. (~\$150K)

This gesture of good will is a morale booster to our members and their families, to feel appreciated and cared for by Canadians. This support helps them get the job done at home and abroad.

Padre Tachie, on behalf of the Senior Base Chaplain and the Chaplain Team, CFB Kingston.



Funding for 35 special needs facilitators, allowed **142 children** with special needs to attend camp.

\$52K distributed to



2,872 members through the Operational Stress Injury Social Support Program to assist members, Veterans, and families dealing with an operational stress injury.

247 families

through the Esquimalt Military Family Resource Centre, participated in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a not-for-profit book-gifting program devoted to inspiring a love of reading in military children during the pandemic.



*She opens the new book with her dad every month and when he's deployed she saves it to open on webcam. It is a special thing they have done together from the start.
 Military Spouse*



111 hospitalized

currently serving members and Veterans were assisted to ensure their utmost care and comfort.

81 Gagetown families



received deployment support through the Lending Library, which include: deployment support books, Teddy Bears and Story Books, assistive devices, and anti-anxiety kits.

I love this program and it has been a wonderful resource for my son to try out new things. I was pleasantly surprised to walk by my son's room and see him staring up the stars on the tent and asking me so many questions. I had no idea that one small little tent could help him sleep better at night by creating a little place of his own and get him



SUPPORTOURTROOPS.ca

License Plate Program

The Support Our Troops License Plate Program, adopted by Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Saskatchewan, is an easy and creative way for Canadians to rally support for our military in an impactful way.

These customized license plates feature our signature Yellow Ribbon, which exemplifies the story of Canadians from coast to coast coming together to show their gratitude to our women and men in uniform.

Funds raised from these specialty plates support current and former members of the Canadian Armed Forces and their families.



“The men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces provide a tremendous service to our province, country and the international community. It is difficult to find ways to truly express our appreciation to them and their families for their service and sacrifice. This program enables Albertans to show their support in a small, but meaningful way. It is inspiring to see these plates on so many Alberta vehicles, knowing the significant difference these donations have made to the lives of military families.”

Nate Glubish, Service Alberta Minister (Since April, 2019)



As of 31 March, 2023



Program Started: 2014
Donation / Plate: \$55.00 / \$75 (total cost)
Total Plates: 57,644
Amount Raised: \$3,170,420
Use of Funds: Serving members, Veterans, and families



Program Started: 2016
Donation / Plate: \$30.00 / \$55 (total cost)
Total Plates: 2,889
Amount Raised: \$86,670
Use of Funds: Military Families / MFRC Saskatchewan Scholarships



Program Started: 2015
Donation / Plate: \$30.00 / \$70 (total cost)
Total Plates: 4,532
Amount Raised: \$158,870 (incl. \$20K donation)
Use of Funds: Ten (10) x \$1K Scholarships / year



Program Started: 2009
Donation / Plate: \$2.50 (\$4.50 vanity) / \$82 (total)
Total Plates: Unknown
Annual Contribution: ~\$125 / Year
Use of Funds: Various



Thank you all!





HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Todd Doherty

Member of Parliament
Cariboo—Prince George

January 10th, 2024

RE: Inclusion of British Columbia in the Support our Troops License Plate Program

To Whom It May Concern,

Given British Columbians rich support for those who have answered the call to service and the success of the Support Our Troops license plate in other provinces in Canada, I would like to express my support for this tremendous program to be included in British Columbia.

Canadian drivers in in Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario have been given the opportunity to show support for the Canadian Armed Forces via the Support Our Troops program. In Alberta, this has resulted in over 2.5 million in funds from the public to go towards serving members, veterans, and youth.

This is an opportunity for members of the beautiful province of British Columbia to show support to the official charitable cause of the Canadian Armed Forces in a creative and unique way that promotes BC's rich history.

As the Member of Parliament for Cariboo-Prince George, I feel it is imperative that the British Columbians be given this incredible opportunity; thus, I am pleased to offer my full support for the implementation of the Support Our Troops license plate program in British Columbia.

Sincerely,

Todd Doherty,

Member of Parliament

Cariboo-Prince George

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January 12, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: British Columbia's Participation in the Support Our Troops License Plate Program

I would like to express my support for British Columbia's participation in the Support Our Troops License Plate Program.

Other provinces have created a specialty license plate purchasable by the public to show support for our uniformed services and shared a portion of the proceeds to Support Our Troops, the official charitable cause of the Canadian Armed Forces. British Columbia should join with the provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario in the Support Our Troops license plate program. This is an opportunity to show support for those who have answered the call to service, while creating a distinctive and meaningful design that pays respect to British Columbia's rich history.

Therefore, as the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Prince George-Valemount, I am pleased to offer my support for the Support Our Troops license plate program in British Columbia.

Sincerely,

Shirley Bond, MLA
Prince George-Valemount





HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
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Bob Zimmer

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Fax: 250-719-6838

January 4, 2024

RE: British Columbia's Participation in the Support Our Troops License Plate Program

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to express my support for British Columbia's participation in the Support Our Troops license Plate Program.

Other provinces have created a specialty license plate purchasable by the public to show support for our uniformed services and shared a portion of the proceeds to Support Our Troops, the official charitable cause of the Canadian Armed Forces. British Columbia should join with the provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario in the Support Our Troops license plate program. This is an opportunity to show support for those who have answered the call to service, while creating a distinctive and meaningful design that pays respect to BC's rich history.

Therefore, as the Member of Parliament for Prince George-Peace River-Northern Rockies, I am pleased to offer my support for the Support Our Troops license plate program in British Columbia.

Sincerely,

Bob Zimmer
Member of Parliament
Prince George-Peace River-Northern Rockies



January 4, 2024

To Whom it may concern

Re: British Columbia's Participation in the Support Our Troops License Plate Program

To Whom It May Concern,

I strongly support British Columbia's participation in the Support Our Troops License Plate Program.

Other provinces have created a specialty license plate purchasable by the public to show support for our uniformed services and shared a portion of the proceeds to Support Our Troops, the official charitable cause of the Canadian Armed Forces. I encourage British Columbia to join with the provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario in the Support Our Troops license plate program. This is an opportunity to show support for those who have answered the call to service, while creating a distinctive and meaningful design that pays respect to British Columbia's rich history.

Therefore, as the Member of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia for Cariboo North, I am pleased to offer my support for the Support Our Troops license plate program in British Columbia.

Sincerely,

Coralee Oakes

MLA

Cariboo North

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of **BRITISH COLUMBIA**



January 11, 2024

RE: British Columbia's Participation in the Support Our Troops License Plate Program

To Whom it may concern,

I am pleased to provide a letter of support for British Columbia's participation in the Support Our Troops License Plate Program.

Other provinces already offer the Support Our Troops License Plate Program, funds raised offer valuable funding to support current and former members of the Canadian Armed Forces and their families. It is time for British Columbia to offer this program in our province, we need to show our gratitude to our uniformed members!

As the MLA for Prince George-Mackenzie I would like to thank you for considering British Columbia's participation in the Support Our Troops License Plate Program.

Sincerely,

Mike Morris
MLA Prince George-Mackenzie