

A Vision of Hope

VETERANS TRANSITION CENTRE

Vancouver, Canada

FOR SOME, THE BATTLE CONTINUES AT HOME

One-third of Canadian Veterans report difficulties in transition.



*1 in 3 Veterans who left the military between 1998 and 2015 were diagnosed with PTSD, depression or anxiety. Many more never come forward for support, but we know they are out there!

2.5x higher suicide rate **Males under 30 years of age had a 2.5 times higher suicide rate compared to males of the same age in the Canadian general population.



Over 40,000 Canadians served in Afghanistan between 2001 and 2014. Sadly, many of these brave men and women, who sacrificed so much for the peace we enjoy today, face **isolation**, **unresolved trauma**, **unemployment and increasing homelessness**. They deserve our attention, our commitment and our collective ingenuity to honour their service, reward their sacrifice and support their often severe and complex needs.



Our vision includes housing, mental health, education and employment support in Vancouver and near existing military services.



HELP US BUILD THE VETERANS TRANSITION CENTRE

You have an exclusive opportunity to create a lasting legacy for your family, corporation, community or country. Your support is required to develop the Veterans Transition Centre (VTC), which will include 50 to 100 housing units and specialized counselling under one roof.

Total needed over 4 years: \$6,500,000

Phase 1

\$500,000 needed for development planning and feasibility.

Phase 2

\$3,000,000 needed for land acquisition and to secure building/ renovation loan.

Phase 3

\$3,000,000 needed for additional programming and support rental subsidies (Goal of 25% below market rent).

ESTABLISHING A HOME IN THE VETERANS' COMMUNITY

Why Vancouver?

Kitsilano has been the home of Veterans and their families near Jericho since 1924. Veterans and members of the military still occupy the single quarters and single-family homes on the Jericho lands; however, in 2025 and 2026, the lands are going to be developed, so these Veterans will need to relocate.

Each year, thousands of Veterans need to access services located in Kitsilano and downtown Vancouver.

39 Canadian Brigade Group Headquarters is located on Burrard Street, next to the Seaforth Armoury. It serves as the central administrative hub and supports military personnel and Veterans across British Columbia.

The Canadian Forces Transition Group, which assists Veterans in transitioning out of the military, is also located on Burrard Street.





Reducing barriers, such as transportation to counselling and medical appointments, is essential to improving Veterans' access to support.



30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN DIRECTLY HELPING VETERANS

The team that created the Veterans Transition Network (VTN), led by Tim Laidler, VTN's former Executive Director and Dr. Marvin Westwood, the founder of the VTN, now UBC Emeritus of Counselling Psychology, is honoured to present an unprecedented opportunity to dedicated community leaders, governments and philanthropists to support our Veterans with the Veterans Transition Centre.

VTN's core program, the Veterans Transition Program (VTP), was first delivered as a research project to investigate new methods of helping Canadian Forces Veterans to reduce and cope with symptoms of operational stress and injuries and successfully transition into civilian life.

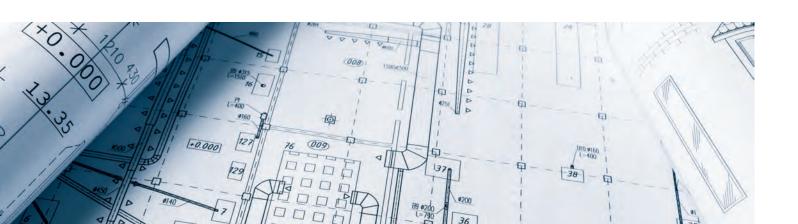


KEYS TO SUCCESS: LOCATION AND EXPERIENCE

The VTC is a non-profit organization with a charitable partner. It will manage the rental units and run the counselling services. VTC will feature guest speakers and employ Veterans to run a variety of community programs, such as adventure retreats and social meet-ups.

- Veterans live and train together during their military service. Bringing them together under one roof during their transition into civilian life is crucial to their success.
- Camaraderie and connections are key to emotional resiliency, as living and socializing in a group has immeasurable benefits.
- Vancouver and Kitsilano offer a wealth of recreational opportunities, including convenient access to water activities. By establishing the centre in this prime location, Veterans can readily benefit from the area's existing amenities and enjoy a wide range of recreational experiences.

- Securing a new career is vital for long-term success, and Vancouver's thriving job market offers ample opportunities. The centre will support this transition by hosting networking events and featuring high-profile guest speakers to connect Veterans with valuable resources and professional insights.
- Similar projects have been launched in nearby cities. The Legion Veterans Village in Surrey is an example of Veterans-specific housing. We want to build on these concepts and provide housing located near the main military base and support centre.



AN EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY

Help us build the Veterans Transition Centre in Vancouver. You have an exclusive opportunity to create a lasting legacy for your family, corporation, community or country. Your support is required to create a much-needed facility along with housing for Veterans:



50 to 100 long-term rental units for Veterans transitioning out of the forces or reservists needing housing.



A supportive community meeting space for Veterans and their families.



Specialized mental health services from on-site counsellors.



Networking with Veteran entrepreneurs to expand career options like never before.



Additional career and educational counselling to take advantage of the \$40,000 to \$80,000 in education funding already available to Veterans from Veteran Affairs Canada.



Training opportunities for UBC students pursuing careers in counselling psychology.

Recognition of your support

We hope you will consider participating in this initiative. By doing so, you will join a select group coming together to establish a national landmark that will have an enduring impact on Veterans and their families. In appreciation of your commitments to the Veterans Transition Centre, we would be pleased to provide appropriate recognition opportunities that are meaningful to you.



"We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders Fields."



GET IN TOUCH

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