

# Year in Review 2021-2022





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### Foreward



This doesn't mean the weight of military service doesn't take a toll on those in uniform, and by extension, their home lives. Frequent absences, relocations, and transitions are hallmarks of military life.

At its core, the mission of the Canadian Armed Forces is to keep Canadians safe. More than 100,000 brave, proud, and dedicated Canadian military members actively serve Canada and Canadians, every day. They are at the ready, regardless of the circumstances and the conditions, to protect Canada and its citizens, at home and abroad.

This doesn't mean the weight of military service doesn't take a toll on those in uniform, and by extension, their home lives. Frequent absences, relocations, and risk are hallmarks of military life.

Thanks to your generosity over the last year, Support Our Troops has been able to assist our serving members, Veterans, and their families with support when they needed it most. In addition to providing direct support to members, Veterans, and their respective families, Support Our Troops also indirectly supported the Canadian Armed Forces community by securing funds for programs that assist with the well-being of military members and their families.

This year, children of military families were able to enjoy summer camp; families with a child with special needs received financial assistance; students were able to achieve their academic dreams; financial assistance was provided to Bases and Wings across the country so that members and their families received support when they needed it..

To our Canadian Armed Forces members, Veterans, and their families - we reaffirm our commitment to provide you with the grants and programs required to support your life of service.

To our supporters – thank you for continuing to stand with us. We appreciate your dedication and commitment to supporting honorable current and retired military members, Veterans, and their families.

With gratitude,

Laurie Ogilvie Senior Vice President, Military Family Services Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services

### What we achieved with your help

As we go about our daily routines, members of the Canadian Armed Forces are making sacrifices every day in their commitment to keeping Canada and Canadians safe. With your help, we were able to be there for them as they stood for us every day.

The generosity of Canadians has made a considerable impact on the lives of Canadian Armed Forces members, Veterans and their families. Here is how our donors and partners have provided help to families, Canadian Armed Forces communities, as well as to the ill and injured:

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#### Impact in 2021 - 2022

April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022



### 7,712

Canadian Armed Forces members, Veterans, and families were supported.



### \$4.9M

Issued in loans

### Almost \$2M

was provided in grants to assist Canadian Armed Forces members, Veterans, and families in need thanks to the generosity of Canadians.



### 2021-2022 in Review

### 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



in funding to offset the extraordinary costs associated with raising a child with exceptionalities.



#### **174 Members**

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



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



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



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.

This gesture of goodwill 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



#### 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** 



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 includes: deployment support books, Teddy Bears and Story Books, assistive devices, and antianxiety 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 interested in outer space.

### Get Involved

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

Your involvement can make a real difference in the lives of those who serve our country with honour and pride, and who have given so much. There are many ways you can give back to military families, such as taking part in an event, raising money in your local area, or becoming one of our valued partners.



#### **Over \$151K**

was raised over the last year by the Funding Innovation Art Easel Program, with over \$1M realized since its inception. This program allows Canadians to contribute to Support Our Troops by bidding on Canadian-made, fully licensed sports, music, and traditional art prints at 350 easel-hosting establishments in 10 provinces.

### **Over \$242K**

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was raised through the License Plate Program. The program, adopted by Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, and Saskatchewan, encourages Canadians to rally support for our military in an impactful way. Funds raised from the sale of these specialty plates support programs and initiatives in military communities located in the four participating provinces.

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### Over \$84K

was raised last year from participating Canadian Armed Forces Appreciation Games in partnership with the NHL, CHL, CFL, MLB, MLS NBA, and various minor league teams allowing Canadians to demonstrate support to the brave individuals who serve our country.



### Campaigns

Our donors are at the heart of Support Our Troops. With your help, we can have a positive impact on the lives of thousands of military members and their families.

### CANEX

CANEX, Canada's Military store and preferred retail provider of the Canadian Armed Forces, launched the Gift of Giving campaign. In June and December, CANEX customers made personal donations either in-store or online to Support Our Troops. With CANEX's generosity in matching each donation dollar for dollar, in June 2021, CANEX raised \$18,869.57 championing the provision of Special Needs Facilitators in Personnel Support Program Camps and the Soldier On Equipment Grant Program. In December 2021, CANEX raised \$26,734.68 championing the Support Our Troops Holiday Hamper Program and the Soldier On Equipment Grant Program.

### **ONroute**

During the months of November and December, all 23 ONroute locations along Highways 400 and 401 in Ontario championed Support Our Troops and the Holiday Hamper Program. ONroute asked customers to donate \$1 with every transaction. Thousands of ONroute customers said "Thank You" to our military members with donations totaling over \$144,000.

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### **Canada Army Run**

Canada Army Run is about Canadians and the Canadian Armed Forces – Air Force, Army, and Navy – joining together in the spirit of camaraderie and community. The Canada Army Run offers an opportunity for participants to fundraise for Support Our Troops and Soldier On. Last year, Canada Army Run's 2021 virtual event raised \$400,000. 17584

#### **Navy Bike Ride**

The Navy Bike Ride is a family-friendly event for cyclists of all ages. Funds raised by the participants of the Navy Bike Ride support three organizations dedicated to the well-being of our military community: Support Our Troops, Soldier On, and the Royal Canadian Navy Benevolent Fund. Last year, \$102,000 was raised.



### **Our Stories**

There is no higher priority than to stand up and defend our nation. More than 100,000 serving Canadians voluntarily prepared for and faced harm – anywhere, anytime, and under any conditions. Canadian Armed Forces members are steadfast in their dedication to protecting Canada and its citizens.

Our valued donors are equally dedicated and committed to supporting these honourable military members. Their gifts provide financial support and assistance to Canadian Armed Forces members, Veterans and their respective families. Here are stories of just some of our generous donors.

### **BMO Bank of Montreal:**

For over a decade, BMO Bank of Montreal has stood alongside the Canadian Armed Forces Community as a valued partner. Through the Canadian Defence Community Banking program, the Bank of Montreal not only supports critical Canadian Armed Forces outreach events, like Canada Army Run and Navy Bike Ride but also provides crucial support to all communities. The Bank of Montreal's generosity provides resources for Canadian Armed Forces members to access support for career development and explore entrepreneurship, as well as, supporting the families of military members and Veterans in pursuing their academic dreams.

## The Estate of Helen Allen Stacey:

Helen Allen Stacey's life mission to advocate for children and youth carries on through her support of the National Scholarship Program. Helen Allen Stacey was a journalist, a wife, an honoree to the Order of Canada, the "fairy godmother" of adoption, an advocate for education and so much more. Thanks to her legacy gift to the Support Our Troops National Scholarship Program, military family members will be able to pursue postsecondary education without the fear of financial burdens. The gift will support education for military family members through a yearly \$3,000 scholarship for the duration of the endowment.

### **Pierre Valois**

As a Canadian Armed Forces Veteran, Mr. Pierre Valois understands first-hand the challenges of military service. For over a decade, Pierre has been a supporter of Support Our Troops, recognizing from experience that serving our country is not just a job, but a sacrifice that affects both the member and their family. "Whether serving or retired, our military members and their families fully deserve the support of all Canadians as they face challenges brought on by military service. My long personal association with the Canadian Armed Forces has merely emphasized the debt that I owe towards its current and past members."

# Support Our Troops Year in Review

2021-2022





