



# Veterans in Crisis Action Plan

Stakeholder Consultation

February 2018



# Veterans in Crisis Action Plan

## VISION STATEMENT

Veteran homelessness is unacceptable in Canada;  
One homeless Veteran is one too many.

## GOAL

To prevent and end Veteran homelessness in Canada.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Veteran-centric, collaboration-led, evidence-informed, outcome-based

## THEMES

<p><b>LEAD and ENGAGE</b> Improve Collaboration and Leadership</p>	<p><b>FIND</b> Improve Outreach and Identification</p>	<p><b>ASSIST</b> Improve Mechanisms to Assist Homeless Veterans and Veterans in Crisis</p>	<p><b>PREVENT</b> Prevent Veteran Homelessness through optimizing Veteran Well-Being</p>
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# Veterans in Crisis Action Plan (cont'd)

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

<p>1. Through strong and visible leadership, strengthen existing relationships and develop and leverage new partnerships across all levels of government, with national and community homelessness organizations and Veteran stakeholder organizations, to engage all to act boldly to prevent and end Veteran homelessness.</p> <p>2. Increase knowledge about homeless Veterans and Veterans in crisis, the factors that lead to homelessness among Veterans, and successful initiatives that prevent and end homelessness and support Veterans in crisis.</p>	<p>3. Strengthen the capacity of Veterans Affairs Canada area offices and partner organizations to identify and connect with homeless Veterans and Veterans in crisis.</p> <p>4. Strengthen the capacity of Veterans Affairs Canada area offices and partner organizations to provide effective crisis response to homeless Veterans and Veterans in crisis.</p> <p>5. Increase access to stable and affordable housing for Veterans.</p> <p>6. Increase access to education and re-entry into purposeful employment for homeless Veterans and Veterans In crisis.</p>	<p>7. Improve the military to civilian transition mechanisms to ensure a successful transition to civilian life by connecting releasing members of the Canadian Armed Forces to the supports they require, and inspiring Veterans to achieve their optimal well-being.</p> <p>8. Expand and enhance initiatives to rapidly identify and better support Veterans who come into contact with the criminal justice system.</p>
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# Proposed Key Activities

## LEAD and ENGAGE

Examples may include:

1. Establish a National Advisory Council to ensure clearly define roles and collaboration among Government and NGOs
2. Work with ESDC, regional/local governments to increase # of homelessness Community Advisory Boards with VAC representation
3. Develop a program to recognize communities and organizations for their work on Veteran homelessness

## FIND

Examples may include:

1. Develop and implement a model for local collaboration with stakeholders, community organizations, and police services to coordinate outreach and identification efforts and to improve coordination/reporting of information on homeless Veterans and Veterans in crisis
2. Assess feasibility of working with local partners to maintain a shared, continuously-updated, by-name list of homeless Veterans in each community



# Proposed Key Activities

ASSIST	PREVENT
<p>Examples may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work with ESDC and other partners to establish a pilot project to help Veterans have access to opportunities for skills training, job search assistance, and job placement</li> <li>2. Work with CMHC and provinces to better communicate the applications processes for CMHC programs to stakeholder organizations</li> <li>3. Enhance training for VAC frontline staff who deal with homeless Veterans and Veterans in crisis</li> </ol>	<p>Examples may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Launch a Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) pilot in Nova Scotia and implement a national VJO initiative for VAC liaison with provincial criminal justice systems</li> <li>2. Using current MOU between VAC and Correctional Service Canada as a model, develop similar agreements with provincial corrections and justice services to ensure early transition assistance is provided to incarcerated Veterans</li> <li>3. Continuous consultation with stakeholders to identify potential gaps in terms of outreach and prevention</li> </ol>



# DISCUSSION