



“Caring for our people, now and into the future”

Summary of Key Principles

Our Departments are committed to delivering the best possible outcomes for all our members past and present. We share responsibilities in this endeavour and have established a cooperative framework to deliver care and support to:

- Widows, widowers and dependants;
- Wounded, ill or injured members;
- Veterans of contemporary conflicts;
- Members in transition and adjustment to civilian life; and
- Serving members with eligibility under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act*, the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act* or the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act*.

While we share responsibilities for serving members, Defence will lead in caring for and supporting them. The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) will lead in caring for and supporting widows, widowers and dependants and wounded, injured or ill Ex-Service members. DVA will also provide compensation and other support to members still serving.

Agreed Principles

We will work together to ensure that wounded, injured or ill ADF members and their families, are supported and cared for during and after their service.

We will define funding arrangements for the provision of this care and support. Defence is responsible for funding care and support for serving members until an agreed point of transition.

We will share information between Departments, resolving issues related to privacy and consent, to ensure assessment and liability is determined as close as possible to the time that the injury occurs.

We will ensure all communication with wounded, injured or ill members, and supporting agencies, reflects the joint responsibilities of both Departments.

We will collaborate on policy and program development and engage on emerging issues affecting both Departments.

We will measure and report our joint responsibilities for the care and support of wounded, injured or ill members.



Dennis Richardson
 Secretary
 Department of Defence



General David Hurley
 Chief of the Defence Force
 Department of Defence



Ian Campbell
 Secretary
 Department of Veterans' Affairs