



ACT
Government

MINISTERIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

c/o Community Services Directorate
Communities Division
GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

To whom it may concern,

The Ministerial Advisory Council for Veterans and their Families (MACVF) comprises community members with a material interest in issues affecting veterans and their families in the ACT. MACVF provides advice to the ACT Government on policies and initiatives which help to support better outcomes for the ACT and region's veteran community.

MACVF welcomes the opportunity to provide the following feedback and comments to the Veterans' Legislation Reform Consultation Pathway. We recognise that legislation which determines and governs compensation, claims, and entitlements is a fundamental backbone of support for veterans and their families. Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) entitlements recognise the specific and unique experience of military service and the incumbent responsibility on governments to support veterans of military service and their families.

In light of the proposed Veterans' Legislation Reform, MACVF wishes to provide the following comments:

- we are in favour of simplifying the legislation;
- we are keen to get a better understanding of, where there is a potential negative impact on entitlements, how and where that will be notified and implemented;
- we would like to see the act be more inclusive of and give more consideration to veterans' families;
- we see the reform as an outstanding opportunity for DVA to review and reform the advocacy training and systems that support veterans to submit claims and access their entitlements; and,
- we are keen to be kept informed of the process and are available to provide input on behalf of the veteran community in the ACT and region.

Once again, we thank you for your consideration of MACVF's views in this important process.

Sincerely,

Nicole Longley, Chair
Ward Gainey, co-Deputy Chair
Grant Newham, co-Deputy
Chair
Victoria Dixon
Sergeant Amy Hestermann-
Crane

Kimberly Hicks
Dr Barbara Morris
Rob Thompson
Louise Vella Jurd
Clayton Watts
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Pat McCabe
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