



## Colin Carrie MP Oshawa

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### Government Enhances The Veterans Charter

**Ottawa, Ontario - October 12, 2011** - Last week, the Honourable Steven Blaney, Minister of Veterans Affairs, announced that the Conservative Government was making significant enhancements to the New Veterans Charter which will help thousands of seriously ill and injured Veterans who require additional financial support. Colin Carrie, Member of Parliament for Oshawa and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health spoke out on this announcement.

“This is great news for Canadian veterans,” stated Colin Carrie. “They deserve the best, and our Government is following through on its commitment to better serve our veterans. These are the people who have put their lives on the line, and these enhancements will have a significant impact on the lives of our veterans.”

\$189 million has been set aside for the New Veterans Charter Act over the next five years to ensure that seriously injured Canadian Forces Veterans receive adequate financial support. This will grow to \$2 billion over the life of the program. Enhancements to the New Veterans Charter include:

- A minimum pre-tax income of \$40,000 a year for Veterans who are in rehabilitation or, if they are no longer able to be gainfully employed, until age 65;
- Expanded eligibility for additional monthly allowances (worth up to \$1,632 per month, payable for life) for seriously injured Veterans;
- A new \$1,000 monthly supplement to the Permanent Impairment Allowance (payable for life) to help our most seriously injured or ill Veterans who are unable to return to suitable, gainful employment; and
- New payment options for Canadian Forces members and Veterans receiving a disability award. While these men and women still have the choice of a lump-sum payment, they are also now able to receive a disability award as either an annual payment (with interest) over any number of years they choose, or as a combination of a partial lump-sum payment and annual payments (with interest).

For more information on the changes at Veterans Affairs Canada, visit [veterans.gc.ca](http://veterans.gc.ca).

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### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

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