



**Veterans Emergency
Transition Services**

Operation: Fuel the Future

**Back to School Food Pantry
Fundraiser & BBQ**



GIVE NOW

Dear Friend of VETS Canada,

Summer 2026

At VETS Canada, we are deeply committed to responding to the urgent needs of Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP veterans in crisis. As the back-to-school season approaches, many veteran families are facing one of their most pressing challenges: food insecurity. That's why we are reaching out to invite you to partner with us in supporting **Operation: Fuel the Future**—a campaign focused on ensuring children and Families in veteran households have access to healthy meals and nutritious breakfast and school lunches.

About Us

At VETS Canada, our Ground Support program is designed to address the most immediate needs of veterans who are homeless or at risk, providing practical and compassionate assistance. This includes food support, housing help, eviction prevention, utility assistance, transportation support, clothing, and more.

We are a federally registered non-profit charity with a national network of dedicated volunteers—many of whom are veterans themselves.

In addition to immediate support, our mission includes promoting long-term dignity, stability, and healing for those who have served.

Why Meals Matter for School

For many children, a healthy breakfast and lunch is more than just a meal—it's fuel for learning, focus, and success. But for veteran families struggling to make ends meet, providing nutritious breakfasts and lunches can become an added financial burden during an already expensive back-to-school season.

Through Operation: Fuel the Future, we aim to help ease that burden by ensuring veteran families have access to healthy pantry staples, fresh food, and lunch bags and accessories so their children can start the school year nourished, focused, and ready to thrive.

How You Can Help

We would be honored if you considered contributing in one of the following ways:

- A financial gift, which will allow us to purchase grocery cards or supplies. (We issue charitable tax receipts for donations over \$20.)
- Donation of food items for the pantry.
- Sponsorship: Presenting Sponsor and BBQ Sponsorship Opportunities
- Become a monthly donor

Impact of Your Support

Your generosity will directly support the health, well-being, and dignity of veteran families by helping ensure children have access to nutritious snacks at school and healthy meals at home. Together, we can reduce food insecurity, relieve financial pressure, and help children start the school year with confidence and the nourishment they need to succeed.

Thank you for considering this invitation to stand with VETS Canada and the veterans we serve. Together, **we can make a real, meaningful difference** in the lives of those who have given so much in service of our country.

With gratitude and respect,

Jim and Debbie Lowther, Founders
VETS Canada, 1-888-228-3871

Donate today:
www.vetscanada.org



Food Pantry



Dartmouth, NS
211 Main Street

149

Families make use of
the food pantry
every month

92

of our supported
families need help
with back to school
expenses

\$5 - \$8

Is the estimated
cost of ONE healthy
and balanced
school day meal.

\$50

will supply healthy
breakfast and snacks
for one child for a
month.

\$500

will support a family's
school meal needs for
a full month



You're Invited!

Please join us as our guest for Back To School Barbeque at The Garrison

Join us for the VETS Canada Back to School BBQ in support of Operation: Fuel the Future on **Monday, August 31 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at The Garrison**, VETS Canada's national headquarters - 211 Main Street Dartmouth. Come enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, and snacks with us in exchange for a minimum donation to the VETS Canada Food Bank. While you're here, take a tour of The Garrison facility, see our food bank in action, and learn firsthand how your support helps veterans and their families facing food insecurity.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Operation: Fuel the Future Presenting Sponsor **\$4,000**

- Presenting Sponsor Logo representation on event packages
- Presenting Sponsor Logo representation on social media posts before and after the barbeque event
- Logo on signage placed at the barbeque event
- Presenting Sponsor Logo representation in emails sent to past donors inviting further participation
- First right of refusal for 2027 event
- Speaking Opportunity at event
- Personalized Garrison Food Pantry Tour
- Meet Veterans, Military Personnel & Families
- Opportunity to participate in future VETS Canada events, programs & activities

Operation: Fuel the Future BBQ Sponsor **\$2,000**

- Barbeque Sponsor Logo representation on social media posts before and after the barbeque event
- Logo on signage placed at the barbeque event
- Logo representation in emails sent to past donors inviting further participation
- Speaking Opportunity at event
- Personalized Garrison Food Pantry Tour
- Meet Veterans, Military Personnel & Families
- Opportunity to participate in future VETS Canada events, programs & activities



The pantry at The Garrison is stocked with a wide range of non-perishable foods such as canned proteins, soups, pasta, rice, vegetables, cereals, and pantry staples. We also stock perishable items, such as produce, meat, cheese and eggs. Additionally, we supply hygiene items, basic household necessities, and - when funding permits - grocery gift cards. These gift cards are especially important as they allow veterans to supplement their pantry items, ensuring they can maintain dignity and choice in their food preparation.

Veterans can access the Food Pantry through our Ground Support program, either by visiting The Garrison directly or by working with one of our trained volunteers across the country. Many veterans we serve struggle with mobility, transportation, or mental health challenges, so our team often prepares and delivers customized food packages based on the individual's needs and circumstances.

As the back-to-school season approaches, demand for support grows significantly. Many veteran families face increased financial pressure as they prepare for the added costs of school supplies, clothing, and daily nutritious meals for their children. For families already in crisis, the burden of providing healthy meals can feel overwhelming. Operation: Fuel the Future is designed to help meet this need by supporting access to nutritious food, school snack essentials, and pantry staples through our Food Bank—ensuring every veteran family who reaches out can receive support with dignity, care, and respect as they prepare for the school year ahead.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to hosting you on a tour!

Ken Doucette, MMM, CD - Veteran

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