

Tribute to the Late Brian Forbes

We respectfully acknowledge the passing of the National Council of Veteran Associations in Canada (NCVA) Chairman Brian Forbes, whose valuable contributions and professional legacy have had a lasting influence on the veterans' community for almost 50 years.

Brian served as Chairman of the NCVA from 2010 until his passing in December 2024 and as Association Solicitor for The War Amps since 1975, later to become Chairman of the Executive Committee in 2009.

Brian was a leading expert in veterans legislation. He made numerous submissions to parliamentary committees and took several successful appeals to the Federal Court of Appeal of Canada, which had significant relevance to the interpretation of the Pension Act as affecting the pension entitlement of seriously disabled veterans and a substantial expansion of the definition of Exceptional Incapacity Allowance.

Furthermore, Brian made several appearances before the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva and presented petitions to the UN Human Rights Committee on behalf of Canada's Hong Kong and Indigenous veterans. In addition, he authored numerous articles to inform and educate important stakeholders and the public on the need for a reform in veterans legislation.

He was also a member of the Executive Committee of the Canadian War Museum and a member of the Veterans Ombudsman Advisory Committee.



The late Brian Forbes, former chairman, National Council of Veteran Associations in Canada

In relation to the development of veterans health-care reform and the New Veterans Charter, Brian sat as a member of the Gerontological Advisory Council, the Canadian Forces Advisory Council, the New Veterans Charter Advisory Group and various veterans consultation groups established by Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) to advise the department on the need for new legislation to address the concerns of traditional and modern-day veterans and members of the Canadian Forces and their families.

We will continue to honour the memory of Brian, whose dedication and contributions left a lasting impact on the veterans' community and all who had the privilege to work with him.