



Feature: Justin Trudeau is a Hoser – Part 1

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Justin Trudeau is a Hoser – Part 1

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VVi is for you, all veterans, regardless of whether you belong to a veteran organization or not. VVi is a distribution centre, a conduit for making sure that the information you need as a veteran is there for you in a timely fashion. Our aim is to provide a forum for *all* Canadian veterans, serving members and their families to have access to information pertaining to veteran rights.

VVi is an independent site, not associated with any governmental department, agency or veteran organization. VeteranVoice.info is maintained by independent contributions.



Justin Trudeau is a Hoser

Perry Grey
Chief Editor VeteranVoice.info (VVi)

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"A few vices are sufficient to darken many virtues". Plutarch

"When we violate someones' ... rights and freedoms, we have an obligation as a society to understand that's not right and we have to move forward," Kent Hehr, Minister of Veterans Affairs July 2017

The recent news that Omar Khadr will receive a large monetary settlement has outraged the majority of Canadians. An enemy combatant is worth millions, while a Canadian Veteran is worth thousands. Why the disparity? We are both entitled to be treated the same under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, but no there is something known as unlimited liability, which means that Veterans can have their rights stripped at the whim of the government. Is this fair?

"The Charter of Rights and Freedoms protects all Canadians, every one of us, even when it is uncomfortable. This is not about the details or merits of the Khadr case. When the government violates any Canadian's Charter rights we all end up paying for it," the prime minister told reporters at the G20 summit in July 2017.

But this is a lie as made apparent by the government's decision to continue the Equitas law suit in 2016. Which also broke another commitment made by Mr Trudeau that Veterans would not have to fight its government in the courts.

The current prime minister made some pretty big commitments during the 2015 election, including many that were to benefit the Veterans Community. He has failed repeatedly to either deliver them in a timely manner or worse yet cancel them

The prime minister has once again proven that some Canadians are more equal than others. And that should never ever happen!

This is why he should be considered a hoser (aka a swindler or conman)

While lawyers can claim that there are legal reasons why Veterans are entitled to less, what about the moral and ethical responsibilities of the government to reward the guardians of all Canadian rights and freedoms?

Why does the government believe that it is okay for the majority of Veterans receive little or nothing after their service? Of note, only 200,000 of the more than 700,000 are clients of Veterans Affairs. The Liberal government in 2005 decided that future clients of VAC were no longer entitled to life time payments for pain and suffering, which the current government said that it would re-instate, but Kent Hehr, the Minister of Veterans Affairs, continues to ask Veterans to be patient as delays continue. He also refuses to divulge details about what his government will offer.

A good example in the discrepancies in compensation is the government offer of \$20,000 to individual First Nations Veterans in 2002 for their service in WW2.

The basis of the Equitas case is that there are major discrepancies between the benefits before 2005 and those of the NVC. I shared an example with the Equitas plaintiffs based on a letter that was sent to me by VAC in 2012. Based on the older Table of Disabilities, VAC assessed a level of 81% and with the newer tables used by the NVC the level dropped to 46%. This is a difference of about 57%.

These are clear examples of the inequalities practiced by our government with regards to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Some will argue that Veterans are eligible for pensions as compensation for their service. The military pension is not fair when compared to that of politicians and other federal employees, nor are the terms of service as discussed below. Of course, military personnel can not join the Union of National Defence Employees because they are not employees (ask a lawyer to explain the differences), so the CAF relies on the government to determine what is fair compensation for services or injuries.

If you are fortunate to get a pension, and it is actually paid, well it is a start. Unfortunately, some Veterans did not receive their pension because of a problem in government financial operations in recent years. When creditors come to collect, a Veteran can not blame the government instead of payment. Going months without money is a form of hardship that should be compensated in addition to the normal pension cheques.

I remember well the debate about the NVC lump sum back in 2004 and 2005. Politicians argued that the full amount of \$250,000, if properly managed, was sufficient. Those politicians probably assumed that every Veteran would receive the full amount and did not have to spend it on say wheelchair access to house and vehicle.

They were wrong. Only 570 of 60,000 received 100% with the average payment being about 11% (\$42,000 compared to the current \$360,000).

Payments of the lump sum were compared to pricing of meat in a butcher shop, so much for leg and so much for an arm. Something worthy of Sweeny Todd not federal bureaucrats deciding fair compensation for service to Canada. Truly gruesome and macabre without much respect or dignity.

By comparison, the families of senior government officials received between \$600,000 and \$1.25 million in similar circumstances (using 2006 information).

Even before the NVC, thousands of Veterans had to fight to receive compensation from a tight fisted government. The government seemed to do everything to deny compensation, and if the government did pay, it was never as generous as the reported Khadr settlement.

Again thousands not millions.

The government has also used some very dishonorable tactics to avoid compensating Veterans including defamation of outspoken critics. VAC has unlawfully revealed personal and medical information of Veterans in an effort to hurt and humiliate such critics, particularly heinous acts in the light of the pain and suffering already experienced by Veterans.

Of course if Veterans behaved in a similar manner, the government gets outraged. The Somalia Incident of 1993 is a good example. The airborne regiment was held accountable for the acts of a few of its members, and was disbanded as a result.

Since then, Canadians have learned that the government ordered the regiment and other military personnel to take Mefloquine, which has been found to have serious, sometimes life threatening side effects. Veterans are currently fighting to get an apology and compensation for this ‘inhumane treatment’.

Why is the government unwilling to admit that Veterans were treated unfairly and why will it not apologise and compensate?

Because Veterans are not entitled to the same respect as Omar Khadr.

Perry Gray is a Regular Force veteran, serving as the Chief Editor of VVi. Perry has been with VVi for 15 years.



You Can Help!

All veterans are encouraged to pass information, opinions, links to self-help sites onto VVi. VeteranVoice.info is a distribution centre and we are dependant on others to pass information. This is your site. Tell other veterans about your site.

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Facebook Messenger: <https://www.facebook.com/VeteranVoice.info>

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 Veteran's Aide Memoire	http://veteranvoice.info/archive/aide_memoire/Vet_Aide_Memoire.pdf



Marijuana For Trauma Inc.
VÉTÉRANS HELPING VETERANS

MARIJUANA For Trauma (MFT)

<https://mftgroup.ca/>

National (US) Gulf War Resources Center, Inc.

<http://www.ngwrc.org/>



PPCLI Association Volunteer Patricia Program (VPP)

<http://vpp.ppccliassoc.ca>



<http://seanbruyea.com>



<https://www.cfpsa.com/Splashpages/SoldierOn/>



Veterans Affairs
Canada

Anciens Combattants
Canada

<http://www.veterans.gc.ca/>

V.E.T.S Veterans Emergency Transition Services

<http://www.vetscanada.org/>



Veterans
Ombudsman

Ombudsman
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<http://www.ombudsman-veterans.gc.ca/>



VeteransofCanada.ca
A Community for Canadian Heroes

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Wounded Warriors Fund

<http://www.woundedwarriors.ca/>

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