



27 February 2024

## **Veterans Living on the Streets and the Soldiers Helping Soldiers organization**

The following information is extracted from a chain of emails between the Soldiers Helping Soldiers organization and the Royal Canadian Legion. In summation, there are Veterans living on the streets across the country and that includes Ottawa. Soldiers Helping Soldiers involves military personnel and civilian volunteers who are going out to the homeless shelters and aide organizations and into the streets to find the veterans and offer them help. The Royal Canadian Legion is looking into using some of the Poopy funds to help in this endeavour.

Email from Zone G5 Commander to Zone G5 Branch Presidents:

26 February 2024

“Comrades,

One of the greatest achievements so far with regards to homeless veterans in the Ottawa area is to find and care for them. As such, the 40 units of the Ottawa Veteran House, the Andy Carswell Building, are all filled and with a stand by list.

One of the integral partner that is key to achieve this goal is the organization, Soldier Helping Soldier, which patrols the street of Ottawa accompanied by members of the police force that actively search and identify homeless veterans, which are then connected to an array of social services, including the RCL, with an aim of finding a permanent solution to their problems. However, and for very valid reasons, their number of volunteers have gradually been reduced to a point that volunteers must be found to continue this essential task.

Please listen to this short video that is truly an eye opener of the homeless veteran’s situation across Canada including Ottawa.”

Email from Soldiers Helping soldiers Board Chairman to Zone G5 Commander:

26 February 2024

“In our efforts to identify a Chapter lead and a leadership team - here is some context:

Soldiers Helping Soldiers is an incorporated all volunteer organizations made up of serving Regular and Reserve members, veterans, and citizens at large who are keen to find, connect with and connect homeless veterans to those who can help them. A copy of our Articles of Incorporation as well as our Credo are enclosed for further context.

Chapter leads are self-identified individuals who are able and willing to attract volunteers, to work with ecosystem partners, and to see volunteers engaged in ways that support our find, connect, connect activities. Chapter leads normally invite other leaders to support them in Chapter activities - including volunteer attraction, volunteer management, planning and operations, ecosystem partner relation managers, and communications. All of these functions are part time individual activities.

Chapters and Chapter leads are supported by the SHS Board of Directors. The board assures our support and relationship with the CAF, with CFMWS/Support our Troops, and with ecosystem partners (like VAC) at the national level. The Board manages the SHS brand and web based communications. And the Board directs annual financial planning, support, disbursement to Chapters, and reporting to SOT (our supporting Charity).

Hope this helps provide some clarity. Open to chatting as helpful.

Thank you for your leadership and service! Priceless and appreciated.

God bless”

As you can see, there is a problem and a solution. Soldiers Helping Soldiers is a valid organization to an essential job for our Veterans. The attached documents include a copy of the Soldiers Helping Soldiers Credo and a copy of the organization’s articles of incorporation, for your information. Also attached is a short video showing the Soldiers Helping Soldiers doing the job.

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President Branch 554