

Fellow Veterans in the GTA and Ontario:

You served in the Canadian Forces and made a contribution to the security of Canadians and those in other countries. It is time that Canadian Veterans know the many ways that your country Canada is saying “thank you” to you for your contributions and sacrifices.

Here is a short list of real benefits and savings for Canadian Veterans:

1. Many businesses (Home Hardware?) give discounts of 10% or more to Canadian Vets who can prove their status. – ViaRail will another 25% off (even when fares are already “on sale”.) Trick is you have to go to the ViaRail agent with proof of military service and quote the military discount code, which is “12070”.
2. It is easy to get your military records. I have available a form letter where you fill in your own details for our imaginary veteran (John Wayne Bloggins), send it to National Archives in Ottawa, and “bingo”, in 8 to 12 weeks you get your service records, all free of charge. (For those who have served 10 years or longer there is a neat picture ID (Record of Service Card) called “NDI 75” for short, which costs \$15 once in your lifetime, and is handier than paper. (I have enclosed a form letter and application form for both ways of proving you have served!)
3. Grand River Transit in Waterloo Region gives Canadian Veterans over age 65 a lifetime picture ID free bus pass. Other communities provide free parking. Again, you need proof of military service. (The TTC has yet to discover Veterans!?)
4. There are also great changes that came into effect with the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) as of 2012 and 2013. Veterans and others aged 60 to 70 can now improve their lifetime pensions by both part-time work while drawing CPP pensions. They can also improve their lifetime pension by up to 42% (rather than 30% as it was before 2012) by waiting and postponing their CPP pensions.

This is my personal effort to help Veterans in the GTA, Ontario and Canada. As an Army Reservist (almost 20 years) and retired high school and college teacher on “civvy street”, I have a strong background in financial, tax, and retirement planning. – In early 2013 I became National Chairman of the 7200 member group “Veterans of Canada” (www.veteransofcanada.ca) and I welcome any veterans’, questions and inquiries.

Sincerely,

Alan

Alan Nanders

519-741-0005 (home) ; alan.nanders@utoronto.ca

(Capt. (retired) Alan J. Nanders, C.D., O.C.T., B.A., B.Ed.)