

SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE IN VETERAN AFFAIRS

Social work is a regulated health profession in Newfoundland and Labrador. There are over 1700 social workers registered to practice social work throughout the province. Social workers adhere to a Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice in providing essential, competent, and high-quality services.

Registered Social Workers provide vital and comprehensive services in their work with Veterans and members of the Canadian Forces and RCMP by:

- Providing individual, couple, and family assessments and treatment on issues pertaining to operational stress injuries (OSI's)*.
- Collaborating with specialized services and Operational Stress Injury Clinics to provide comprehensive treatment services.
- Supporting, educating, and counselling family members impacted by trauma using a variety of theoretical approaches, provided through individual and group work.
- Supporting service providers through educational opportunities about military culture and treatment of OSI's.
- Coordinating commemorative events and community supports for Veterans.
- Leading national initiatives to improve services responding to the unique needs of military and policing cultures.
- Utilizing peer support networks as a complement to treatment, recognizing this support as a successful tool for recovery in this population and their families.

****Operational Stress Injury (OSI) is used to describe any persistent psychological difficulties resulting from operational duties performed while serving in the Canadian military or the RCMP including post-traumatic stress disorder, major depression, alcohol and substance use, social phobia, agoraphobia or generalized anxiety.***

Further information about the social work profession can be found at www.nlcsw.ca or by contacting:

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