



RE: Massage Therapy Benefits for Active Members of the Canadian Forces

Dear

I am writing as a member of this constituency and a Registered Massage Therapist. Active members of the Canadian Forces are not currently able to access massage therapy, but it continues to be a valued benefit of Veterans Affairs Canada.

A recent insurance industry study has shown that massage therapy is the most highly utilized workplace paramedical benefit employed by Canadians due to its proven efficacy in addressing acute and chronic musculoskeletal pain and dysfunction. Studies have shown that massage therapy can also make a significant contribution to the reduction of the physical manifestations of depression and anxiety. Veterans Affairs Canada offers coverage for massage therapy treatments, and this highly effective treatment option should also be available to active Canadian Forces members.

As a member of this constituency, I ask that you contact the Minister of National Defence to request making massage therapy benefits available to the active members of the Canadian Forces. This action would help to ensure the health and well-being of those men and women that have chosen to support our nation. They deserve the very best care and to have access to this valuable form of health care.

Please assist us in correcting this inequality. As health professionals, we help keep Canadians healthy and would be honored to have the opportunity to provide that service to the members of the Canadian Forces.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Member of the Registered Massage Therapists' Association of Ontario