

News Release

September 13, 2011

Parliamentary Secretary Eve Adams Honours Exceptional Citizens from Nova Scotia

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Halifax — Twelve citizens from Nova Scotia were honoured today for their commitment and dedication to Veterans. Eve Adams, Parliamentary Secretary to the Honourable Steven Blaney, Minister of Veterans Affairs, presented these individuals with the Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation during a ceremony in Halifax.

"These twelve individuals are making a real and lasting difference with their service and dedication to our nation's truest heroes," said Minister Blaney. "On behalf of all Canadians, I am proud to be able to acknowledge their extraordinary efforts in helping to provide the care and recognition our Veterans and their families deserve. Today we recognize their hard work and honour them."

The Parliamentary Secretary presented the Commendation to the following individuals:

Robert Barrett, Dartmouth

Thomas Cane, Dartmouth

Russell Farrell, Halifax

Harry Ferguson, New Glasgow

John Gaetan, Scotchtown

Richard Halliday, East Clifford (Admiral Desmond Piers Branch RCNA)

Barry Keeler, Halifax

Cordell Levy, Kingston

Theodorus Martens, St. Peter's

Donald McLeod, Bedford

Tremaine Sampson, Florence

Gerald Sigrist, Bridgewater (Admiral Desmond Piers Branch RCNA)

"It is an honour to be here today to pay tribute to these exceptional individuals who have contributed so much in service to our Veterans," said Ms. Adams. "Our Government is proud to recognize these Canadians who volunteer their time and efforts to give back to our Veterans."

The Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation includes a bar, which can be worn below official decorations on a Veteran's blazer, as well as a lapel pin for civilian wear and a certificate.

The Commendation is presented to individuals who have contributed to the care and well-being of Veterans and to the remembrance of their contributions, sacrifices and achievements. It is intended primarily for Veterans, but in some circumstances may also be awarded to non-Veterans. Nominations may be submitted at any time and are reviewed annually by an advisory committee.

Find more information on the Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation, including the accomplishments and biographies of the 12 recipients, on the Veterans Affairs Canada Web site at veterans.gc.ca.

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