

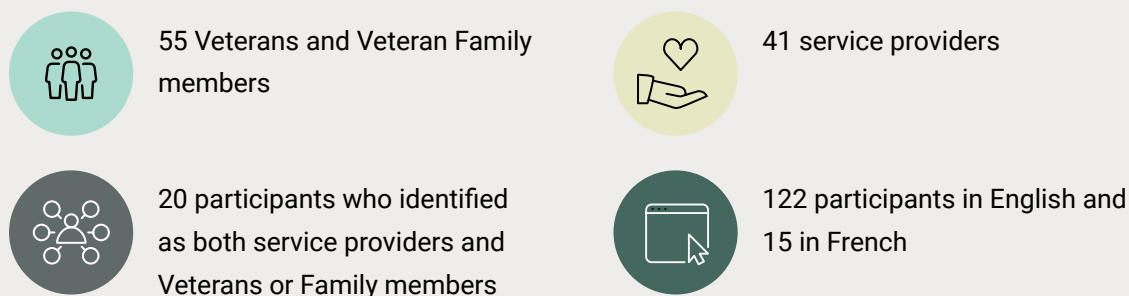
MILITARY CULTURE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT - ENGAGEMENT STAGE SUMMARY

The Atlas Institute for Veterans and Families is developing resources to help service providers to increase their understanding of military culture, its influence on Veteran and Family health care needs, and how to adapt care to support these unique needs. The project has three stages:

- Engage the community in a stakeholder consultation to gauge what military cultural competence in health care looks like and what is most important for providers to know (complete)
- Develop resources that bridge the gap between existing resources and what we heard in consultation with stakeholders (in progress)
- Disseminate resources throughout 2024-2025

WHO WE HEARD FROM

We engaged with 137 participants in total – 25 through virtual sessions and 112 via an online survey.



An optional sociodemographic survey was provided for participants to complete, which included but was not limited to gender, geographic location, CAF or RCMP affiliation, and applicable CAF element (Army, Air Force or Navy). Due to a low response rate to this optional survey, the data cannot be presented here.

WHAT WE HEARD

Enhancing military cultural competence amongst health care providers is a crucial part of building trust between Veterans, Veteran Family members and their providers. These are the key themes that emerged around building cultural competence and improving the experience of care for Veterans and Veteran Families:

Know the impact of military service on Veteran and Veteran Family transition, health and well-being.

“Being honest and open [about mental/physical health challenges] would normally have career-altering results.”

VETERAN

Have a general, high-level knowledge of military terms and be willing to ask questions to better understand service and post-service experiences.

“Be authentic, learn the military lingo, understand the organizational structure and challenges, be prepared to work long-term with Veterans.”

MENTAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

Treat Veterans and Families as care partners.

“Families can often be an afterthought and not actually considered as serving our country and sacrificing our relationships with immediate Family and our communities of origin.”

VETERAN FAMILY MEMBER

Understand military values that often remain embedded in Veteran and Family lifestyles.

“Without understanding the purpose, one cannot understand the person.”

VETERAN



WHAT'S NEXT

As we move into the resource development phase of this project, we'll take what we've heard to address gaps in existing military culture resources and create resources that meet the needs identified by those with whom we engaged.

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Disclaimer: Views and opinions expressed are solely those of the Atlas Institute for Veterans and Families and may not reflect the views and opinions of the Government of Canada.