



Mental Health Organization Receives Prestigious Award for Work in Support of Canada's Veterans and their Families

Winnipeg (October 16, 2017) Today, the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA) is proud to announce that Dr. Kim Hollihan, Deputy CEO of CCPA, and Dr. Lorna Martin, President Emerita of CCPA, received the Vanier Institute of the Family's 2017 Mirabelli-Glossop Award for outstanding leadership in the development of *School Counsellors Working with Military and Veteran Families*, a resource that provides information on the important roles and unique lifestyles of military and Veteran families that enrich schools, communities, and workplaces.

The Vanier Institute of the Family focuses its work on understanding how families interact, and how they are affected by social, economic, environmental and cultural forces. The Mirabelli-Glossop Award recognizes excellence in advancing the national understanding of families in Canada.

"Dr. Hollihan and Dr. Martin were integral to the development and promotion of this important resource," said Nora Spinks, CEO of the Vanier Institute of the Family. "In addition to building military literacy, this resource offers clear recommendations counsellors can take to ensure all students benefit from the rich experiences of children in military and Veteran families. The resource also ensures that counsellors can draw on these recommendations to address some of the challenges that confront students from military and Veteran families as they move across educational jurisdictions and experience diverse social environments."

School Counsellors Working with Military and Veteran Families was written and produced in partnership with the Canadian Military and Veteran Families Leadership Circle. The resource aims to assist school personnel in increasing their military literacy, and enabling increased support and inclusion of children and youth of military and Veteran families in the social, academic and athletic lives of schools across Canada. The resource, available in English and French, has been shared with provincial and territorial Ministries/Departments of Education for dissemination to schools in communities from coast to coast to coast.

"We are extremely proud that our organization has been recognized for its work in putting together what we hope is one of the most comprehensive resources on how school counsellors can assist children and families who have a parent who is a Veteran or who actively serves in the military," said Barbara MacCallum, CEO of CCPA. "It is essential that the mental wellness of military families be prioritized, and this resource and its use in schools across Canada is a very positive step forward."

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The Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA) is a national bilingual association providing professional counsellors and psychotherapists with access to exclusive educational programs, certification, professional development and direct contact with professional peers and specialty groups. CCPA promotes the profession and its contribution to the mental health and well-being of all Canadians.

For further information, please contact:

Cynthia Waldmeier, CCPA Media Relations
Telephone: 613-233-8906
Email: ccpa@impactcanada.com