



HQ3BDE/OUT/2016/Q6572112

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THE TOWNSVILLE DEFENCE COMMUNITY FORUM 01/16 MINUTES – 14 MAR 16

BLUF. 3 BDE hosted the inaugural meeting of Townsville based ex-serving organisations/external support organisations (ESOs) on 14 Mar 16. ESOs were given the opportunity to describe who they support within the Defence Community in order to canvass and collate existing soldier support capabilities within the Townsville region. It was agreed that a forum will be held once every quarter in order to ensure that resources are adequately directed to soldier support from respective ESOs. The next meeting is at 1500 h, Wednesday 15 Jun 16 at Townsville RSL.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Townsville Defence Community Forum was conducted from 1500 – 1700 h on Monday 14 March 16 in the Daly Officers Mess. A list of attendees is at annex A.

MINUTES

2. Opening Statement.

a. It was proposed that the TDCF is held once every quarter with the next meeting to be held at 1500 h on Wednesday 15 June 2016 at the Townsville RSL.

3. Principles.

a. The draft principles of the TDCF are to:

- (1) Enable Defence personnel to realise their potential
- (2) Facilitate open and honest discussion between ESOs and Defence
- (3) Employ TDCF members' capabilities and strengths in a manner concomitant with TDCF members' own preference.
- (4) Encourage TDCF members to provide soldier support through 3rd Brigade's Geckos Family Centre, Soldier Recovery Centre and Vasey Resilience Centre to Defence members and their families to facilitate rehabilitation and resilience
- (5) Ensure that the TDCF's information is available to Townsville-based defence personnel via sharepoint.

4. Open Forum.

a. Each ESO in attendance was invited to give a brief introduction of the type of support they provide as well as their main target audience. This information was collated into a matrix which is at annex B.

- b. It was noted that there are a large amount of ESOs that currently serve within the Townsville region. There is a disparity, however, in the level of knowledge within ADF units as to what services and support networks are available for members (both Defence and ex-serving) as well as their families. The TDCF aims to enhance this knowledge for our soldiers.

5. The Defence Community in Townsville is strong. It is important that the capabilities and resources that ESOs provide are known to both serving and ex-serving members to ensure that the best support is utilised. The 3rd Brigade will continue to host the TDCF to facilitate the sharing of information and resources with the Townsville Defence Community.



C Field, CSC
BRIG
COMD 3 BDE

Tel: (07) 4411 7128

12 Apr 16

Annexes:

- A. List of attendees – Townsville TDCF 01/16
B. Matrix of services provided by ESOs within the Townsville region

Distribution:

COFS FORCOMD
SADFO HMAS Cairns
SADFO RAAF Townsville
SADFO 51 FNQR
DGPERS-A
CO CTC
CO LHC
DCO Townsville
Townsville RSL
North QLD RSL Sub Branch
OIC Geckos
Mates4Mates
DVA
Legacy Townsville
TPI
National Servicemen
Vietnam Veterans Association
Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemakers
Veterans off the Street
Mental Illness Fellowship
War Widows Guild of Australia
Women's Veterans Network

For Information:

| | |
|-------------------|--------|
| 1 BDE | (COMD) |
| 7 BDE | (COMD) |
| 6 CS BDE | (COMD) |
| 11 BDE | (COMD) |
| 13 BDE | (COMD) |
| 16 AVN BDE | (COMD) |
| 17 CSS BDE | (COMD) |

LIST OF ATTENDEES

| Organisation | Representative | Phone | Email |
|---|--|--------------|--|
| DCO Townsville | MAJ Chris Reed | 07 4753 6539 | chris.reed@defence.gov.au |
| RSL Townsville | Bill Whitburn | 0412 666 451 | bwhitburn@tsvrsl.com.au |
| North QLD RSL Sub Branch | Steve Sergeant | 07 4771 9621 | nqd@rslqld.org |
| RSL Qld – State | Ewan Cameron | 07 4771 9621 | nqd@rslqld.org |
| GECKOS @ LAVARACK | CAPT Trevor Lyall | 07 4411 1741 | trevor.lyall@defence.gov.au |
| Mates4Mates | Denis Devantier | 0418 695 204 | denis.devantier@mates4mates.org |
| DVA | Suzie Ferguson | 07 4722 3300 | |
| Legacy Townsville | Steve Ferguson | 07 4772 7533 | legtown@bigpond.net.au |
| TPI | Trevor Mullins | 0447 47 7221 | |
| National Servicemen | Warren Heggarty | 07 4779 5590 | warrenheg@bigpond.com |
| Vietnam Veterans Association | Gavin Rogers | 0400 032 786 | president@vvaaqueensland.asn.au |
| Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemakers | Chris Dawson | 0427 280 956 | nqldpoc@peacekeepers.asn.au |
| Veterans off the Street | Floss Foster | 0429 370 700 | |
| Mental Illness Fellowship | Phil Thompson | 0476 849 905 | pthompson@mifnq.org.au |
| War Widows Guild of Australia | Wilma Kent | 0412 341 293 | wilma.kent@gmail.com |
| Women's Veterans Network | Ramon Fenton Barbara Craven-Griffiths | 0408 020 394 | WVNAust@gmail.com |

