

To Whom it may concern,

02 September 2026

I first heard about Veteran Owned Charters on Facebook July 2026, and met Geoff and Heather, Co-Founders when they came to my Buddy Check Coffee and Royal Canadian Legion Branch #569, Long Sault. They explained how the Charter works to support veterans and their families by offering a free boat cruise in a relaxing safe environment. Geoff & Heather were very positive and answered any questions brought forward.

I quickly accepted the opportunity to take my wife out and we both loved the experience! We took a 2-hour boat cruise along the St. Lawrence River and felt totally at ease throughout the journey. Before leaving the dock, Geoff and Heather toured us around the boat, explaining all safety and emergency procedures. They are both friendly and easy to talk to and welcoming.

They were very informative throughout as well, checking in on our well-being. We found the cruise very relaxing on a gorgeous sunny day with calm waters. Geoff pointed out various wildlife during the cruise, and numerous landmarks of interest along the route. Heather explained the different markers in the water and rules of water navigation.

We were able to sit back and enjoy the sights and sounds along the way. It gave us a sense of freedom from life's issues and raised our sense of wellbeing and peace of mind.

I willingly talk up the Charter everywhere I go and at both my Legion veteran support groups. We happily booked 2 more cruises to share the experience with others that we know would also enjoy the freedom and pleasure of this wonderful service.

Sincerely,

Ken W. Stephens, CD



June 26, 2026

**Re: Letter of Support – Veteran Owned Charters**

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the City of Ottawa's Veterans Task Force (OVTF), I am pleased to provide this letter in support of Veteran Owned Charters, a charitable initiative dedicated to enhancing the well-being, connection, and sense of community among Canada's Veterans, serving members, and their families.

For those who may be unfamiliar with our work, the City of Ottawa's Veterans Task Force (OVTF) is the first municipal task force of its kind in Canada. Comprised of appointed volunteer community leaders, our purpose is to remove barriers and bridge gaps that exist at the community level, recognizing that federal and provincial services, programs, and funding cannot always land exactly where they need to within each unique municipality.

OVTF recognizes and helps amplify the value of innovative, community-based initiatives that complement existing supports available to Veterans and their families. Veteran Owned Charters aligns with this approach by offering a Veteran-led opportunity to foster meaningful social connections and promote wellness through shared experiences on the water.

By creating opportunities for Veterans and their families to feel welcomed and supported while enjoying the benefits of nature, initiatives such as these can help reduce social isolation, encourage peer engagement, and strengthen community ties.

We appreciate organizations that contribute to a strong, connected, and supportive community for those who have served our country and wish Veteran Owned Charters continued success in sustaining and expanding opportunities for Veterans and their families to connect with one another.

Sincerely,

Andrée Paige, Co-Chair / Co-présidente  
City of Ottawa Veterans Task Force  
Groupe de travail des anciens combattants d'Ottawa  
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[OVTF on/sur LinkedIn](#) / [OVTF on/sur Facebook](#)



*House of Commons*

Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am pleased to offer my support for **Veteran Owned Charters**, a registered Canadian charity dedicated to providing Canada's veterans with the opportunity to enjoy time on the water in a peaceful and restorative environment.

I had the pleasure to meet Geoffrey and Heather recently at the Crysler Marina to learn more about how this charity came to fruition, and I believe it is a unique way of supporting our veterans. In particular, the opportunity to tour veterans around our local waterways, even for a few hours, is a wonderful idea and concept.

Our veterans have made tremendous sacrifices in service to our country, and they deserve opportunities to reconnect, relax, and experience the camaraderie that organizations like Veteran Owned Charters make possible. By offering sailing experiences that promote wellness, reflection, and fellowship, the organization provides a unique and meaningful service to those who have given so much on behalf of Canadians.

Initiatives such as Veteran Owned Charters demonstrate the remarkable impact that community organizations can have in supporting the well-being of our veterans and their families. Their commitment to honouring those who have served is both admirable and deserving of recognition.

I commend everyone involved with Veteran Owned Charters for their dedication and encourage Canadians to support their important work. Thank you for all that you do to enrich the lives of our veterans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Duncan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Eric Duncan

Member of Parliament, Stormont-Dundas-Glengarry



June 24, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

**Re: Letter of Support for Veteran Owned Charters Inc.**

On behalf of the Office of the Mayor and the Municipality of South Dundas, I am pleased to provide this letter in support of Veteran Owned Charters and its efforts to enhance the health, wellness, and social connectedness of Canadian veterans and their support teams.

Veteran Owned Charters is a federally registered Canadian charity founded and led by veterans with a mission to improve the wellbeing, connectedness, and quality of life of veterans and their families/support teams through meaningful experiences on the water. The organization delivers structured peer-support opportunities and wellness-focused boating programs designed to reduce social isolation, strengthen relationships, promote resilience, and foster a renewed sense of purpose and belonging among participants.

The Municipality of South Dundas recognizes the importance of initiatives that support mental wellness, encourage community participation, and create opportunities for individuals to build strong and supportive social networks. Programs such as those offered by Veteran Owned Charters help address challenges faced by veterans transitioning from military service by providing safe, welcoming environments where participants can reconnect with peers, engage in healthy recreational activities, and access informal sources of support.

Veteran Owned Charters contributes positively to community wellbeing through its veteran-led approach, commitment to volunteerism, and efforts to build meaningful partnerships that strengthen social connectedness. The organization also helps showcase the recreational and natural assets of the South Dundas region while encouraging participation in activities that promote inclusion, resilience, and overall wellness.

The Municipality of South Dundas recognizes Veteran Owned Charters as a valued community partner whose programming complements broader efforts to promote health, inclusion, and community engagement. Investments in initiatives that foster social connection, volunteer involvement, and accessible wellness opportunities can have lasting benefits for veterans, their families, volunteers, and the broader community.

The Office of the Mayor is pleased to endorse Veteran Owned Charters and supports its efforts to pursue current and future funding opportunities that will enable the organization to expand its reach, enhance program accessibility, and continue delivering meaningful experiences that benefit veterans, their families, and the communities they call home.

We commend the leadership and supporters of Veteran Owned Charters for their dedication to serving those who have served Canada and wish them continued success in fulfilling their charitable mission.

Sincerely,

**Jason Broad, Mayor**

Municipality of South Dundas