

# Victorian Budget 2021/22

The Hon Shaun Leane MP  
Minister for Veterans

16 June 2021

# Portfolio Overview

The Victorian Government supports veterans' wellbeing, recognition and acknowledgement of service. Initiatives aim to facilitate the successful transition to, and participation in civilian life. Initiatives include:



Programs that support Victorian veterans and their families and **advocacy** on national and intra-state issues



**Veteran employment** initiatives to better recognise and capitalise on the skills of our veterans in the public and private sector



Support for the **Victorian Veterans Council** and the **Shrine of Remembrance**



Education initiatives such as the **Premier's Spirit of Anzac Prize** and **Learning Firsthand**



Supporting **commemorative events** such as **ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day** and other significant anniversaries

**Grants for capital works, war memorials, education and commemoration;** and **welfare support** for veterans



**History and heritage** initiatives to identify, access and protect our war heritage



Engaging with the **Commonwealth Government** to ensure veterans are supported

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# Victorian Budget 2021/22 Highlights



The Government has committed **\$8.3 million** over four years to support Victorian veterans. This year's budget initiatives include:

- **\$6 million** over two years for Victoria's pre-eminent place of commemoration, the Shrine of Remembrance for repairs and restoration of its public infrastructure and public safety and accessibility works
- **\$1.3 million** over four years to extend the Public Sector Veterans Employment Strategy for a further four years, program is on track to meet existing BP3 Target of 750 by June 2021
- **\$650,000** over two years has been allocated to support major events in Victoria to commemorate the service and sacrifice of veterans
- **\$300,000** to support and strengthen the role of the Victorian Veterans Council through a dedicated website and to develop an Ex-Service Organisation Summit on veterans' welfare in 2022.

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# 2020-21 Key Achievements – Supporting Veterans



- We're working with the Commonwealth Government on the **Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide** to ensure systemic issues faced by Australian Defence Force members are addressed.
- In 2020-21 we have allocated over **\$2.4 million to 119 projects** that support veteran welfare, commemoration, education and capital works projects, and war memorial restorations.
- To support 2021 ANZAC Day commemorations, we provided RSL Victoria with **\$330,000** to ensure the safety of veterans and their supporters.
- **24 students** from **20 schools** received a **Premier's Spirit of Anzac Prize** scholarship for their work recognising the contribution Australian service personnel have made
- We have delivered **ex-service organisation information sessions** to provide information about Victorian Government welfare programs and services.

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# Making Victoria the destination state for veterans



- To assist veterans to successfully transition, they need to be supported into meaningful training and employment.
- Twelve months after transitioning from the military, the **veteran unemployment rate is 9 per cent.**
- To address this, we're extending the Public Sector Veteran Employment Strategy and are on track to meet the BP3 target of 750 veterans employed by June 2021.
- We have also convened the Victorian Veterans Employment and Skills Accreditation Roundtable, which brings together experts from across Defence, industry, ex-service organisations and government to address barriers faced by veterans and their families.

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