

# Webinar

Organized by the Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health Research

**Moderator:** Ms. Nora Spinks

**Speakers:** Dr. Deborah Norris  
Ms. Linda Manser  
Dr. Nicola Fear

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## Military and Veteran Family Research: Setting the Stage for the Next Chapter

Research related to the families of military personnel and Veterans has grown considerably in the past decade, both in Canada and around the world. This interdisciplinary field of research has contributed to raising awareness of the service-related experiences, and its impacts, on families; identifying gaps; and advancing knowledge to inform policy, practice, and future research. Experts in the field will share how far family research has come over the last 10 years, present recent advances in family research, and discuss pathways forward for enhancing research relevance, reach, uptake, and impact for the decade ahead.

To (re)-see this webinar: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XrlPfUDfTrY&ab\\_channel=CIMVHRICRSMV](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XrlPfUDfTrY&ab_channel=CIMVHRICRSMV)

## Out of the Wilderness: Building Capacity in Military and Veteran Family Research in Canada

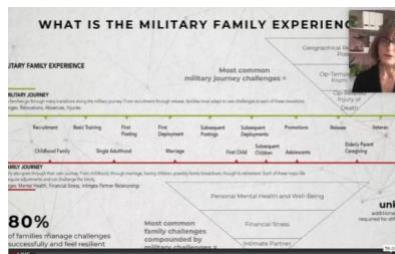
**Dr. Deborah Norris** shared her thoughts on the growth of research on military and veteran families in Canada and over the past twenty years.

She demonstrated how the research perspective on military families has shifted from a monolithic concept to one that is open to their diversity and resilience.

Thanks to the lessons learned from the past, it is now possible to consolidate what we know and understand the topics that need to be developed in the future.

## Understanding the Contemporary Canadian Military Family

**Ms. Linda Manser** has shown us the relevance of developing research on military families.



80% of families experience challenges associated with deployment.

### WHAT DON'T WE KNOW YET?

- What are the experiences of different identities or family personas?
- What are the comparators?
- Why are some struggling while others are not?
- Are evidence-based interventions from civilian populations or from foreign military transferable?

Thanks to a diversity of study, it is now possible to have a complete assessment of the situation of Canadian military families. We know who they are, how many they are, where they live, what their composition is. Now it is important to shift our general knowledge research priorities to address specific gaps in knowledge.

## Military Families: New and Emerging Issues from an International Perspective

**Dr. Nicola Fear** provided a brief overview of current research on the health and well-being of military families from an international perspective.

### WHAT NEXT?

- Recognise diversity of families in research
- Ensure evidence based services & interventions available
- Longer term follow up – what happens next?
- Other groups currently “missing”:
  - Military mothers & Families of physically injured personnel

Focusing on new and emerging issues, she highlighted the impacts of the current social, political, and economic context, if only by discussing the impact of COVID-19. In discussing the diversity of this work, she highlighted the gaps that still exist today in this area of research.