VETERANS HOUSE
ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL

SCREENING KIT · NOVEMBER 2026

Host an About Turn screening.

A guide for community groups, clubs, schools and workplaces that want to bring About Turn: Veterans Transforming Trauma to their community, safely and with care.

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Veterans House Alliance International
Registered charity 762689925 RR0001 · info@veteranshouse.ca · 35 Main Street, Gananoque, ON K7G 2L8

THE FILM

About the film.

About Turn: Veterans Transforming Trauma is a documentary on veteran mental health, made by its producers with veterans who share their own experience.

VHAI made grants toward the film in 2024 and 2025. It had its first screening on November 8, 2026, at the Savoy Theatre in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, followed by a Q&A panel. Learn more about the film.

The film belongs to its producers. VHAI does not own the film or its rights. Every screening needs the producers' written permission, which VHAI requests for you. Please don't announce a screening until it is confirmed in writing.

Speakers in the film share their own experience, and their views are their own. VHAI does not name, recommend or endorse any treatment, including any shown or discussed in the film.

HONOURING THOSE WHO SERVED

Our promise to veterans at every screening.

The veterans in this film chose to share their own experience. Every screening should honour that choice, and respect everyone in the room: veterans, serving members, families and friends.

- **Dignity.** Treat veterans as capable people with strength and something to offer, not as a problem to be solved or a story to pity.
- **Choice.** No one is asked to share, to identify as a veteran, or to explain why they step out. Listening the whole evening is always fine.
- **Veterans' voices first.** Where you can, have a veteran or peer supporter co-host the evening, and let veterans speak for themselves.
- **Consent.** No photos or recordings of the audience or the discussion without clear permission, and never in the quiet room.
- **Accuracy.** Describe the film, VHAI and the people in it truthfully. No medical claims, and no treatment promoted.
- **No exploitation.** No donation asks during hard moments, no use of anyone's story in an appeal, and no tie-ins to Remembrance Day or the poppy.

HOW TO REQUEST

How to request a screening.

1
Write to us early

Email info@veteranshouse.ca (subject: Screening request) at least four weeks before your preferred date. Shorter notice is sometimes possible, so just ask.

2
Tell us the details

Your organization and contact person, the venue, two or three possible dates, expected audience size, whether it is public or private, whether you plan a panel or donations, and who might co-host.

3
We ask the producers

VHAI passes your request to the film's producers. They decide whether a screening can go ahead, and on what terms.

4
Confirm in writing

If they agree, you confirm the screening terms in writing. Only then can you promote the event.

5
Prepare and host

Use the checklists, timeline, discussion guide and care plan in this kit.

6
Report back

Within two weeks, tell us how many attended, what was given, and any feedback, and return or delete the screening copy as agreed.

SCREENING TERMS

Screening terms, in brief.

The producers set the final terms for each screening. These are the terms VHAI expects every host to accept, as a starting point.

- One screening, at the venue and on the date agreed in writing.
- Show the film complete and unchanged, with its credits.
- No recording, live-streaming, copying, excerpting or posting of the film, in whole or in part.
- No admission charge unless the producers agree in writing. Donations are welcome.
- Use only publicity materials the producers and VHAI have approved, and describe the event as a screening "in support of Veterans House Alliance International" if you are raising funds for VHAI.
- The host is responsible for the venue, safety, accessibility, insurance and any permits.
- Keep the event non-partisan: no political party, candidate or campaign may be promoted, praised or criticized.
- No medical claims, and no promotion or sale of any treatment, product or service.
- Panellists speak from their own experience, and their views are their own. Where possible, include at least one veteran.
- Return or delete the screening copy as agreed, and report back to VHAI within two weeks.

VENUE AND TECH

Venue and tech checklist.

Venue

- [ ] Step-free entrance, accessible washroom and seating
- [ ] Seats with a clear view, and space for mobility devices
- [ ] A separate quiet room near the screening room
- [ ] Easy-to-find exits, with lights low but not dark, and some aisle seats near the exits for anyone who prefers them
- [ ] A table for information and donations, away from the doors
- [ ] Parking or transit details shared in advance
- [ ] Venue insurance and any permits confirmed

Tech

- [ ] Projector or screen, and a playback device that plays the agreed format
- [ ] A full test run of the film file, with sound, at the venue
- [ ] Sound loud enough for the back row, but not overpowering; check the volume of loud scenes in your test run
- [ ] A microphone for the welcome and panel
- [ ] Captions turned on, if available
- [ ] A backup copy on a second device, if the agreement allows
- [ ] Spare cables, adapters and power bars
- [ ] Someone in charge of the tech who stays for the whole film

SAMPLE TIMELINE

A sample timeline.

Planning

When	What
4 weeks before	Send your request to VHAI. Hold a venue.
3 weeks	Screening confirmed in writing. Book the venue, check insurance and permits.
2 weeks	Invite a veteran or peer co-host and panellists. Send publicity to VHAI for approval. Start promoting once it's approved.
1 week	Brief the co-host, volunteers and support person. Confirm the care plan and local resources.
Final days	Tech test at the venue. Print handouts, content notes and donor sheets.
2 weeks after	Send funds and donor sheets, report back, return or delete the copy.

On the night

Time	What
6:00	Volunteers arrive. Final tech check. Quiet room ready.
6:30	Doors open. Information table and support numbers on display.
7:00	Welcome, content note and care plan.
7:10	The film.
After the film	A short break, then a 30-minute discussion or panel.
Close	Thanks, how to give, support numbers again. Volunteers stay until the room is empty.

CONTENT NOTE

Content note wording.

Read this aloud before the film starts, and print it on any handout or event page. Say it plainly and briefly: it is information, not a warning that people can't cope. Ideally, the veteran co-host reads it.

> *"Before we begin: the veterans in this film speak openly about service, trauma, mental health and, at times, suicide. Parts of it may be hard to watch, for veterans, for families and for anyone else. Do what's right for you tonight. You can step out at any time and come back when you're ready, and you don't need to explain. There is a quiet room [location], and [name] is there if you'd like company. If you need help now, you can call or text 9-8-8, any time. Veterans and their families can call the Veterans Affairs Canada Assistance Service at 1-800-268-7708, any time. In an emergency, call 911. These numbers are also on the table at the back."*

Adjust the topics to match the final film once the producers confirm its content.

CARE PLAN

A care plan for the evening.

- **A quiet space.** A separate, comfortable room with water and the support numbers, signed clearly.
- **If someone is in distress.** Stay with them, speak calmly, and offer the quiet room. Ask if they'd like to call 9-8-8 together. If anyone is in immediate danger, call 911.

- **A named support person.** A calm, trusted person, not a counsellor, who stays near the quiet room, listens, and helps people connect with support if they want it. A veteran or trained peer supporter is ideal. If a peer-support or mental health organization in your area can send someone, ask them.
- **Families too.** Spouses, children, parents and families who have lost someone may find parts of the film hard. The quiet room and support person are there for them as well.
- **Support numbers, everywhere.** On the screen before and after the film, on the handout and at the table: call or text **9-8-8**, any time; Veterans Affairs Canada Assistance Service **1-800-268-7708**, any time; in an emergency, **911**.
- **No pressure to share.** Nobody has to speak, stay or explain why they're leaving. Most people who step out just want a breather: offer, don't hover.
- **Privacy.** No photos of the audience during or right after the film without asking, and never in the quiet room.
- **Local resources.** Add local services, such as your nearest Operational Stress Injury Social Support (OSISS) contact, peer groups or community health centre, to the handout. Check each one before the event.
- **Volunteers support; they don't counsel.** Brief every volunteer on this plan before doors open.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

A respectful discussion guide.

Who leads

- Where possible, a veteran or peer supporter co-hosts alongside the host. Ask them early, let them shape the evening, and don't make them speak for all veterans.
- Veterans served in different eras and roles, Regular Force and Reserve, at home and on deployments such as Cyprus, Somalia, the Balkans and Afghanistan. No single story is "the" veteran story.

Open with care

- "Thanks for staying. This part is optional. You're welcome to listen, share, or head home."
- Set four ground rules: speak from your own experience; what's shared here stays here; anyone may pass; no one speaks for anyone else.
- Remind people where the quiet room is and that they can leave at any time.

Questions to offer

- What stayed with you from the film?
- Was there a moment that surprised you, or that you recognized?
- The film talks about leaving the uniform behind. What helps people find their team again?
- What does good support from family, friends or community look like?
- What strengths do veterans and their families bring to our community?
- What did the film show about families, and how can we stand with them?
- What could our community do to welcome veterans and to make support easy to find for anyone who wants it?
- What is one thing you'll take home tonight?

Notes for the facilitator

- Don't ask anyone about their own trauma, deployments, combat experience or diagnosis, and don't single out veterans in the room or ask people to identify themselves. Let people share only what they choose.
- If someone becomes upset, pause, thank them, and offer the quiet room and support person, without fuss.
- If talk turns to specific treatments, acknowledge it and redirect: "Everyone's path is different. A qualified health professional is the right person to talk to about treatment." VHAI does not recommend or endorse any treatment.
- Keep the conversation non-partisan. If it turns political, bring it back to people and community.
- End on time, and end with the support numbers.

Close

"Thank you for watching, and for listening to each other. If tonight brought something up, you're not alone: call or text 9-8-8, any time, and veterans and families can call 1-800-268-7708. Please take care getting home."

COLLECTING DONATIONS

Collecting donations at a screening.

- **The easiest way:** show the QR code to VHAI's CanadaHelps page on screen and at the table. Donors give securely and CanadaHelps emails their receipt.
- **Cash or cheque gifts** can be receipted by VHAI only if the donor's full name, mailing address and amount are recorded on the donor record sheet. Cash in a jar with no details can't be receipted, but every dollar still helps.
- **Admission is not a gift.** If the producers agree to an admission charge, it can't be receipted. Keep donations separate.

- **Raffles and 50/50s need a licence** held by the charity. Talk to us first.
- **Send the funds within 30 days**, as set out in the fundraising kit.
- Be gentle. Make one clear, warm ask at the end, never during the discussion or right after a hard moment, and never pressure anyone. Don't use stories from the film or the discussion in your appeal.

Scan to give to Veterans House Alliance International through CanadaHelps.
canadahelps.org/en/charities/veterans-house

Sources: Canada Revenue Agency, Fundraising events: issuing receipts and What is a gift.

CONTACT

Questions?

Email info@veteranshouse.ca (subject: Screening request). Mail: Veterans House Alliance International, 35 Main Street, Gananoque, ON K7G 2L8.

VHAI is a registered Canadian charity, 762689925 RR0001. We are not a crisis service and do not provide treatment.

VETERANS HOUSE ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL

Screening request: what to send us

Email these details to info@veteranshouse.ca (subject: Screening request) at least four weeks before your preferred date. Shorter notice is sometimes possible, so just ask. VHAI passes your request to the film's producers, who decide whether a screening can go ahead and on what terms.

Organization: _____

Contact person: _____

Email and phone: _____

Venue name and address: _____

Preferred dates (2 or 3): _____

Expected audience size: _____

Public or private event?: _____

Admission planned? (needs producers' written OK): _____

Panel or speakers planned? Who?: _____

Veteran or peer co-host?: _____

Collecting donations for VHAI?: _____

Accessibility: step-free, captions needed?: _____

Quiet room and support person arranged?: _____

Need to talk?

You are not alone. Help is there, any time.

9-8-8

Call or text, any time. Suicide Crisis Helpline.

1-800-268-7708

Veterans Affairs Canada Assistance Service, for veterans and families, any time.

911

In an emergency.

A quiet room is available [location]. [Name] is here if you'd like company.

Veterans House Alliance International is not a crisis service and does not provide treatment.

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Donor record sheet

For gifts collected by cash, cheque or e-Transfer at a fundraiser in support of Veterans House Alliance International. VHAI can issue a tax receipt only when the donor's full name and mailing address are recorded, and only for a true gift (not tickets, raffle or 50/50 tickets, auction items, purchases or sponsorship). **Receipts are emailed, so every donor's email is required.** Required fields are marked *.

Event name: _____ Event date: _____

Organizer: _____ Organizer phone / email: _____

#	Donor's full name * (first name, initial, last name)	Mailing address, city, province, postal code *	Email *	Amount *	Date	Cash / cheque / e-Transfer
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						

Cash count: counted by (1) _____ and (2) _____ Total cash $_____ Date _____

Privacy: these details are used only to issue receipts and keep the records Canadian tax law requires. Send this sheet only to VHAI (info@veteranshouse.ca, or with your cheque to 35 Main Street, Gananoque, ON K7G 2L8), and destroy your copies once we confirm we have it.