Coding for Veterans Career Caravan is making several stops in Atlantic Canada A program to retrain Canada's veterans for tech jobs expands to include spouses and Afghan interpreters

GlobeNewswire· Posted: September 24, 2021 6:00 AM

Online coding course gives Canadian veterans new employment opportunities

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia, Sept. 24, 2021 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) — The Coding For Veterans Career Caravan will be pulling into Atlantic Canada on September 28th, 2021. Its mission is to bring our troops from deployment to employment, even in the face of COVID-19. The caravan will be travelling throughout Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island until October 7th, 2021.

The goal of the Coding for Veterans (C4V) program is to harness the skills and experiences of veterans who have served our country by training them for second, well-paying civilian careers as software and cyber-security professionals.

"They served us all with dedication and sacrifice during their military career and now we are providing them an opportunity to help fill the urgent skills-shortage in the IT sector, which is causing a critical drag on the Canadian economy," says Jeff Musson, Executive Director of Coding For Veterans. "Veterans feel they can still serve our country but their duty has now moved from the battlefield to cyberspace."

The program has expanded this year to include military spouses and family members among its students. Most recently, to support the resettlement of those citizens of Afghanistan who served alongside our troops, C4V has opened the program to allow

Afghan interpreters who can safely immigrate to Canada, to enroll and retrain for tech sector jobs alongside the CAF members they once served beside.

It's estimated that nearly 150-thousand software and cyber-security positions in this country could go unfilled in the next couple of years. The Coding For Veterans Career Caravan is COVID-19 compliant, meaning veterans will be able to safely receive invaluable career advice in person.

Coding For Veterans is an intensive 8-month online program offered in partnership with the University of Ottawa that provides graduating military veterans with job-ready training and certification in the areas of software development and cyber security. For those CAF veterans who qualify, the tuition for the program is fully paid for by Veterans Affairs Canada.

"We are providing the military veterans with the tools required for a career in IT," says C4V Academic Director Pat Shaw. "We have tech companies and government agencies interested in filling their tech talent pipeline with graduates from our program, while at the same time, our program provides military veterans with a solid career in which to gain stable, long-term employment."

Thousands of Veterans Want to Learn to Code

Every year, approximately 7,000 men and women leave the Canadian Forces. They're often perceived as only having the skill set for security work or policing. C4V has done extensive research to determine that our military personnel are especially suited for software and

cyber security work. Covid-19 restrictions have all but halted the usual in-person job fairs people leaving the military depend upon to help them transition into civilian life and find good-paying jobs.

"The pandemic has led to a doubling of enrollment as the demand for IT jobs continues to grow due to the pandemic," says Jeff Musson, CEO of Coding For Veterans. "Covid-19 has pulled the workforce years into the future. Companies are opening jobs to veterans and ready to hire no matter where they live. The program is delivered online, and they can continue to work remotely."

The Coding For Veterans Career Caravan tour will stop in most major military installations and training centres in Canada for the next 2 months ahead of Remembrance Day 2021 – where it will make its final stop back in our nation's capital on November 11th.

The tour will stop in the following locations:

Sept 28th   Halifax, NS

DND Transition Centre
6343 Hawk Terrace
Halifax Nova Scotia, B3L 4T4

Time: 1000 hrs – 1600 hrs

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Sept 29th, Greenwood
Sept 30th, Moncton
Oct 1st, Charlottetown
Oct 4th, CFB Gagetown
Oct 5th-7th DEFSEC Atlantic Conference (Halifax)

Future Caravan Locations:

Calgary, Edmonton, Cold Lake, Vancouver, Comox, Esquimalt, Toronto, Borden, North Bay, London, Kitchener, Hamilton, Niagara Falls, Peterborough, Trenton, Kingston, Petawawa and Ottawa.

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