



**Consulate General of
India Toronto**

Press Release: Varishtha Yoddha- 2023

Consulate General of India, Toronto plans to organize the fourth edition of its 'Varishtha Yoddha' initiative in near future. Under this unique program, Consulate recognizes the contributions and sacrifices of our veterans of the armed forces of the Government of India and felicitates them. The last three editions of the marquee event were held in the years 2020, 2021 and 2022 when veterans above the age of 75 years were felicitated.

2. The eligibility criteria for this year's awards are as below:
 - a) The veterans should be above *70 years of age as of August 15, 2023*.
 - b) The veterans should have had served in Indian Army, Navy, or Air-Force.
 - c) The veteran should be a resident of the [Consular Jurisdiction](#) (see link) of Consulate General of India, Toronto.
 - d) The veterans should not have been felicitated by our office in any of the previous editions of 'Varishtha Yoddha'.

3. To organise the event, Consulate has, in the past, relied on the support of three veterans' associations in GTA. The following are the details of these associations:
 - (a) Veterans' Association of Ontario-**
Contact: Capt. Ranjit Dhaliwal- Ph: 647-760-9001, email- ranjitdhaliwal2013@gmail.com
 - (b) Indian Air Force Veteran's Community Association, Canada-**
Contact: Sh. Suba Bajwa- Ph: 416-666-4959, email: suba_bajwa@hotmail.com
 - (c) Naval Foundation-**
Contact: Cdr. Vineet Nagia – Ph: 289-828-6041, email: navalfoundation1@gmail.com

4. It is requested that those eligible for the felicitation and desiring for the award, may please send their nominations through any of the above-mentioned associations to reach us latest by 15th May 2023 along with the following details:
 - i. Name
 - ii. Rank
 - iii. PIO/ NRI
 - iv. Passport Number/ OCI Card number
 - v. Date of Birth
 - vi. Current profession
 - vii. State of origin (in India)
 - viii. Address in Canada
 - ix. Phone number (Canada)
 - x. Email
 - xi. Brief Particulars of Service including War participation, if any.

2nd May, 2023