



RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

PETITION No.: **421-02405**

BY: **Ms. MATHYSSEN (LONDON-FANSHAWE)**

DATE: **JUNE 1, 2018**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **HONOURABLE HARJIT S. SAJJAN**

Response by the Minister of National Defence

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

SUBJECT

Military medals and decorations

ORIGINAL TEXT

REPLY

The Canadian Honours System recognizes the service and sacrifice of our brave women and men in uniform. The Canadian Armed Forces' Honours Policy states that an "honour must recognize a worthy endeavour; it must not represent routine duty." The Canadian Armed Forces encourage and appreciate volunteerism and a number of individual honours already exist to recognize exceptional service. As well, the Canadian Armed Forces' Decoration recognizes 12 years of service, and campaign/service medals recognize duty performed on combat, peacekeeping or humanitarian operations. Like many Commonwealth countries, Canada also adheres to a "five-year" retroactivity rule that precludes recognition for events occurring more than five years in the past. In light of these considerations, we do not intend to create a new Canadian Military Volunteer Service Medal.