

## CANNABIS WEALTH BUYS BUCOLIC BEACH RETREAT

Geoff Bird

Canadian Forces veteran **Fabian Henry** walked over a thousand kilometres to **Ottawa** this summer to protest planned cuts to medical cannabis reimbursements for veterans.~

Henry says the effort fell on deaf ears, but his continued fight to help veterans suffering from post-traumatic disorder is no less grand than the long march.

All in the name of saving PTSD afflicted ex-soldiers like himself, Henry is building a cannabis production plant in **Port Hawkesbury** and has just finalized the \$4-million purchase of a bucolic beach in his native **Cape Breton**.

The 300-acre **Chimney Corner Beach** near **Inverness**, purchased from the estate of **Cara Evans**, the wife of the late coal mine developer **Lewis Evans**, is just one piece of idyllic real estate Henry has acquired with the intent of creating a retreat for veterans with PTSD.



Chimney Corner Beach

Through **678734 N.B. Ltd.**, he also bought the land around **Egypt Falls** last year.

And then there's **Breton Cannapharms Ltd.**, the aspiring cannabis producer he founded last year.

He recently purchased the 75,000-square-foot former call centre at **24 Queen Street** in Port Hawkesbury for \$1.6 million and is outfitting an initial 4,000 sf into grow space, which he hopes **Health Canada** will clear for production next year.

Unlike the explosion of producers angling for a piece of the soon-to-be-legalized recreational market, Henry is positioning Breton Cannapharms to service primarily a medical clientele.

Clientele just like Henry, who uses 10 grams of cannabis daily to treat PTSD symptoms stemming from his tour of **Afghanistan** in 2007, when a miscommunication between he and a sergeant major led to the deaths of two Canadian soldiers.

"None of us use it for fun," Henry said in an interview.

"I use it as medicine, and I never have a day of fun using it. It's to prevent the symptoms and triggers of post-traumatic stress disorder."

Henry initially bought cannabis off the streets to treat his illness. After seeing a positive change, and shifts in the regulation of medical cannabis, Henry co-founded a chain of clinics that helped veterans access the drug called **Marijuana For Trauma Inc.**

The chain grew to 11 clinics before Henry and his co-founders sold the company in 2016 to **Canada House Wellness Group Inc.**, a publicly traded cannabis grower that caters to veterans.

Henry and co-founder **Mike Southwell** each got a 20% stake in Canada House. In May, they disclosed to shareholders that that they would be donating their most of their holdings to **Global Alliance Fund**.

Regulatory filings describe Global Alliance as a "veteran owned and operated charity that will be active by November 2019."

At Tuesday's closing of 20 cents per share, the 40,000 shares they're putting into Global Alliance was worth \$8 million.

Henry said the real estate in Cape Breton and likely part of Breton Cannapharms will be held by Global Alliance eventually.

He declined to discuss plans for the charity in detail.

Still, he said the retreat is "a big part of our story."

"We're not just here for cannabis, it's also about aftercare for our group."

Breton Cannapharms, led by CEO **Jim Mustard**, an Inverness municipal councillor, got a major vote of confidence Thursday even as production lies months away.

**Namaste Technologies Inc.**, a **Vancouver**-based cannabis grower and vendor with ambitions of being the **Amazon** of pot, announced a deal to purchase an undisclosed amount of Breton Cannapharms' production.

Namaste said it plans to work exclusively with Breton Cannapharms to target veteran patients for its medical platform, NamasteMD.

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