# Media Report 17 Feb 2023

This weeks media reports will cover and answer great questions veterans are still asking and local Media Articles and An illness or injury can have an impact on your ability to adjust to life after service. We all need healthcare services. The Treatment benefits program provides coverage for a variety of benefits and services to help you get—and stay healthy

## **Disability Award Increases**

- What is the new maximum amount of the tax-free Disability Award?
- How was the new maximum amount for the Disability Award determined?
- Is the Death Benefit also increased?
- Will anyone who received a Disability Award or Death Benefit prior to April 1, 2017, benefit from the increased rate?
- Will I need to apply?
- I am eligible for the increase in Disability Award. When should I expect a payment?
- <u>Do I need to complete a VAC 888 Disability Award Payment Options to receive this additional payment?</u>
- I received a "Verification of address and Banking Information" form. I have verified the information and/or made my changes on My VAC Account, do I still need to upload the form to My VAC Account? My address and payment instructions are the same, do I still need to send the form back to VAC, i.e., Matane?
- I had to change banks and did not think to notify VAC of the change as I was not receiving any regular payments. My old account is closed, what will happen to my additional payment?
- I changed my bank account yesterday for personal reasons but my other account is still open, what will happen with my additional payment?
- My spouse and I have separated in the last week and my account with VAC is a joint account but I updated my banking information today. Will my additional payment go to this new account?
- I am a Canadian Armed Forces member/Veteran who has received a Disability Award and have not been contacted yet?
- What do I need to do to get my payment as soon as possible?
- I am a survivor/dependent child who received a Disability Award and/or Death Benefit payment on behalf of a deceased member or Veteran prior to April 1, 2017. Will I benefit from the increased rate?
- My spouse/common-law partner/parent was a CAF member/Veteran who received a Disability Award, but is now deceased. Am I entitled to the additional payment? How do I apply?
- I am an individual who was a dependent child at the time of my parent's death and I am now 18 years of age or older. Will I receive the additional payment directly?

- I am the mother/father/guardian calling on behalf of an individual who was a dependent child at the time of the Veteran's/member's death and she/he is less than 18 years of age. Will I receive the additional payment on their behalf?
- How is this one-time lump sum additional payment calculated?
- I have an outstanding overpayment with VAC. Will the additional payment be used towards this overpayment?
- I noticed an amount was deposited into my bank account and I am wondering if it is the additional payment related to the Disability Award increase. It shows up as Government of Canada deposit and not Veterans Affairs Canada.
- I received a letter saying that I can expect a payment within two weeks but I never applied for anything. Can you explain?
- I received a letter saying that I can expect a payment within two weeks, however it is over that period of time now. Who should I contact?
- I am a survivor of a deceased Canadian Armed Forces member or Veteran and received my letter and my mother is getting 50% of the additional payment and my sister and I are only getting 25% each. Why is it not split equally among all three of us?
- I have moved since the last time I communicated with VAC. How can I change my address?
- How can I confirm OR update my bank account information?
- Will the new rates for the Disability Award be indexed?
- I previously chose to have annual payments for my Disability Award instead of a lump sum. Will the additional payment that I receive impact my annual payment?
- Is the additional payment taxable?
- I am currently receiving a monthly Disability Pension or a Survivor's Pension and I have never received a Disability Award . Am I eligible for an additional payment? Why am I not included in this change?
- <u>Is there a plan to have the Disability Pension increased in addition to its annual indexing?</u>
- Prior to May 2012, Disability Pensions were taken into consideration when calculating the Earning Loss Benefit (ELB) amount. Will this additional payment create an overpayment for ELB payment?
- Will individuals who received an ex gratia payment for a sudden servicerelated death that occurred between May 2005 and April 2006 be eligible to receive the additional payment?
- How much will my increase be?

#### IN THE MEDIA

Changes to Depart With Dignity Program

Vancouver's Bailey Bridge

Haïti: un avion militaire canadien pour aider à lutter contre les gangs

Greater Victoria finds 5 generators to help people in war-torn Ukraine

<u>Building brigades: Canada, NATO allies struggle to shore up Baltic defences</u> <u>against Russian threat</u>

Engineers, search dogs sent to Turkey, Syria after quake

Des chercheurs canadiens aideront à trouver les corps de soldats américains disparus

CFB Esquimalt land could be used for more housing, Eby tells Trudeau

Halifax university's technology to help U.S. find missing soldiers on former

European battlefields



### **Black History Month**

2 Construction Battalion via Facebook

The No. 2 Construction Battalion was the segregated unit of Black soldiers during the First World War. Though they served their country with pride, they were discriminated against and marginalized. Last year, the Government of Canada issued an official apology to the descendants of the Battalion. As we reflect on our past, we must use those reflections to build a better and stronger culture of diversity and respect.

#### **Base/Wing** — Newspaper

14 Wing Greenwood — <u>The Aurora</u>
22 Wing North Bay — <u>The Shield</u>
4 Wing Cold Lake — <u>The Courier</u>
CFB Esquimalt — <u>The Lookout</u>
CFSU Ottawa — <u>The Guard</u>
CFB Shilo — <u>The Shilo Stag</u>

17 Wing Winnipeg — <u>The Voxair</u>
CFB Halifax — <u>The Trident</u>
CFB Edmonton — <u>The Western Sentinel</u>
CFB Valcartier — <u>The Adsum</u>
CFB Kingston — <u>Garrison News</u>
CFB St Jean — <u>The Servir</u>

19 Wing Comox — <u>The Totem Times</u>
8 Wing Trenton — <u>The Contact</u>
CFB Petawawa — <u>The Petawawa Post</u>
3 Wing Bagotville — <u>The Vortex</u>
CFB Borden — <u>The Citizen</u>
Base Gagetown — <u>Gagetown Gazette</u>