

Media Report 27 December 2019

This weeks media reports will cover and answer great questions veterans are still asking such as Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation and Long-term care, direction to Support you need, when you need it. Rehabilitation services and local Media Articles

Happy New Year Message and wishes for our Soldiers and Veterans

“Keeping our country’s freedom and integrity is a tough job. Our family wishes you a joyous and festive Christmas and a Happy New Year.”

Happy New Year for an Amazing 2020 Wishing you 12 months of success, 52 weeks of laughter, 365 days of fun, 8760 hours of joy, 525600 minutes of good luck and 31536000 seconds of happiness.

Happy New Year I hope this year brings all new happiness, new goals, new achievements and a lot of new inspirations on your life. Wishing you a year fully loaded with happiness. Wishing every day of the new year to be filled with success, happiness and prosperity for you and your families, happy new year.

“My family’s thoughts and prayers are with you this Christmas Season. We are eternally grateful for your courage and commitment.”

Mr Randy Stowell, CD

National President of NATO VETERANS organization of Canada

Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation

An illness or injury can have an impact on your ability to adjust to life after service. If you have received a disability benefit, you may also qualify for the Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation—a tax-free, monthly benefit — payable for life.

About this program

The Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation is a tax-free, monthly benefit. It provides recognition and compensation for any severe and permanent disability, related to your service, which creates a barrier to your life after service.

Every applicant for this benefit receives an individual assessment. If a barrier is identified, the assessment will assign a grade-level which is based on the extent and severity of your impairment.

Do you qualify?

You should apply for the Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation if you have a service-related injury or illness, for which you have received a VAC disability benefit, that is:

- permanent and severe, and
- creating a barrier to your successful re-establishment in civilian life.

Note: If you already receive the [Exceptional Incapacity Allowance](#), you are not eligible for this benefit.

How to apply

Note: If you are currently in receipt of the Career Impact Allowance we will automatically move you over to the Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation. You will move over at the same Grade Level (1, 2 or 3) and will be paid the corresponding, non-taxable Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation monthly amount.

Apply online

If you are registered for My VAC Account, you can submit your application for this benefit online. If you aren't registered, you can [register now](#).

Mail or in person

Download the application form. Then, drop it off at a [VAC office](#) or [CAF Transition Centre](#). You can also mail your completed form directly to the address listed on the form.

Get help with your application

The staff at any [VAC office](#) or [CAF Transition Centre](#) can assist you, or call us at 1-866-522-2122.

Additional information

Find out more

Assessment

Through an individual assessment, we will assign you one of three grade-levels based on the extent and seriousness of your impairment. Grade one refers to the most serious conditions.

The assessment examines how independent you are by looking at such things as your mobility, your need for assistance with activities of daily living (such as bathing and dressing), and other factors affecting your daily life.

See the [current rates](#).

If you receive this benefit, it will be paid for the duration of your life. This would only change if your health improved to an extent where you no longer had any barriers caused by your impairment(s).

The Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation cannot be paid to the survivor or other dependents of the Veteran.

Related programs

[Disability Benefits](#): Financial payments for Veterans who have a service-related disability or injury.

[Critical Injury Benefit](#): A one-time payment that recognizes the immediate impact of the most severe and traumatic service-related injuries or diseases.

[Rehabilitation services](#): Services to improve your health and adjust to life after service.

[Clothing Allowance](#): Monthly payments if you need new or special clothing due to your health issues.

[Treatment Benefits](#): Coverage for medical and health related services.

[Caregiver Recognition Benefit](#): Monthly payments for an informal caregiver who provides you with daily personal care support.

Frequently asked questions

What is the monthly Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation based on?

The benefit recognizes that severe and permanent impairments may create barriers to establishing themselves in post-service life. The monthly amount

payable is based on the extent of the Veteran's permanent and severe impairment. It takes into consideration such things as a Veterans' mobility, requirements for supervision and the need for assistance with activities of daily living (such as bathing and dressing).

It will be payable at three grade levels with \$1500/month being the highest and \$500/month the lowest.

What is the difference between CIA and APSC?

Taxability: The Career Impact Allowance (CIA) is taxable because it compensates for lost employment potential and career progression opportunities. The Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation (APSC), on the other hand, will be non-taxable because it compensates for the extent to which permanent and severe impairments cause barriers to re-establishment.

Eligibility: The eligibility for the two programs is similar in many ways:

- they are only payable to Veterans;
- the Veteran must have a disability benefit; and
- the Veteran must have a permanent and severe impairment.

The key eligibility difference between the two benefits is that under CIA, a Veteran must have an approved rehabilitation plan in order to receive the CIA. Under APSC, a Veteran must only have a barrier to re-establishment to qualify, they do not have to have an approved rehabilitation plan.

Grade Levels: Both benefits have three grade levels. The key difference on which grade is paid is that the CIA considers medical impairment as well as earnings capacity. APSC will only consider medical impairment. The APSC has no equivalent to the CIA Supplement.

[View all](#) Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation FAQs.

Long-term care

Do you require 24-hour personal and nursing care on a short-term or long-term basis? We can provide financial support to qualifying Veterans for the cost of this care.

About this program

All health systems in Canada provide some level of long-term care support in provincially licensed or regulated facilities.

Financial support from Veterans Affairs Canada may be available when you have been admitted to 24-hour care in a community bed (available to any provincial resident) or contract bed (only available to Second World War or Korean War Veterans).

The assessment process and admission to long-term care facilities is managed by your provincial, regional, or local health authority. Please contact the agency responsible for long-term care in your province or territory:

- [Alberta](#)
 - [British Columbia](#)
 - [Manitoba](#)
 - [New Brunswick](#)
 - [Newfoundland and Labrador](#)
 - [Northwest Territories](#)
 - [Nova Scotia](#)
 - [Nunavut](#)
 - [Ontario](#)
 - [Prince Edward Island](#)
 - [Quebec](#)
 - [Saskatchewan](#)
 - [Yukon](#)
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Do you qualify?

If you have been admitted to a long-term care facility, you may qualify for and should apply for financial assistance if you served in the Canadian Armed Forces and have:

- a low income,
- a service-related disability, or
- a health need for long-term care.

How to apply

Before you apply

Before you apply for financial assistance from Veterans Affairs Canada, you must first be admitted to a long-term care facility.

Apply online

If you are registered for My VAC Account, you can submit your application for this benefit online. If you aren't registered, you can [register now](#).

Mail or in person

Download the [application package](#) (VAC1503APe). Then, drop it off at a [VAC office](#). You can also mail your completed form directly to the address listed on the form.

Get help with your application

The staff at any [VAC office](#) can assist you, or call us at 1-866-522-2122.

Note for legal representatives: Include a copy of the document that shows you to be the legal representative (e.g. Power of Attorney). If you have previously provided this, you do not need to send it again.

Additional information

Related programs

[Treatment Benefits](#) - Coverage for medical and health related services.

[Veterans Independence Program](#) - Payments for home and health care services that you need to remain independent at home.

[War Veterans Allowance](#) - Monthly payments if you have a low household income.

Frequently asked questions

What is the maximum a Veteran must pay toward their long-term care accommodation costs?

Effective October 1, 2018, the maximum accommodation and meals monthly amount paid by a Veteran is \$1,039.48. Any supplementary charges such as the costs of semi-private or private rooms are not part of this calculation.

Do some Veterans pay less than the maximum amount?

Veterans who are admitted to care as a direct result of a condition for which they are in receipt of a disability benefit are not required to pay toward their long-term care. Also, Veterans may have a reduced contribution if they are married or have a lower income.

Where can I find the policies for this program?

Read the [policies related to the long-term care program](#).

TOP 10 MEDIA STORY'S FOR 2019

10. Mefloquine lawsuits set to be filed by veterans in the next week

Global News

Dave Bona spent 14 years with the Canadian Armed Forces. He plans to soon to launch a lawsuit against the government over the mental and physical health issues he said were caused by the antimalarial drug, mefloquine. Bona, 51, was deployed to Somalia in 1992 and Rwanda in 1994. He said he took mefloquine for a total of 13 months during the two deployments. [READ MORE](#)

9. 81 CEF completes emergency RHU renovation

Cpl Dallas Curran

The purpose of the 2 Godfrey RHU is to provide emergency housing for CAF members in need. A vitally important building to the CAF morale welfare. To this extent, it is expected to provide members in dire circumstances the comfort and knowledge that they have a place they can call home for themselves and their family. 2 Godfrey is meant to alleviate pressure on the member, so that they can instead focus more of their energy towards improving their living situation.

However, upon a recent inspection, it was found to be in need of critical renovations. Due to a rodent infestation, much of the infrastructure was severely damaged and needed replacement, as well it was found that several structural members were rotted and the foundation was cracked. 81 CEF determined that 2 Godfrey for what its purpose serves, deserved more than just fixing the issues and instead it should be brought up to a higher standard, as is demanded of the military. [READ MORE](#)

8. New badge for Real Property Operations Group

CMEA

A new badge for the Canadian Forces Real Property Operations Group (CFRPOG) has been approved. The tower symbolizes strength and efficiency in architecture, engineering, planning,

construction and technology, some of the Group's main areas of activity. [READ MORE](#)

7. Sapper Gallantry and Loss at Pashmul — Sept. 3, 2006

CMEA

On Sept. 2, 2006, the Canadian Army launched what is considered to be one of the most deadly operations in recent military history. NATO's Operation MEDUSA aimed to reclaim the Pashmal/Panjawyi district of Afghanistan from the Taliban. The enemy had been massing in the region with the express purpose of launching a major assault against the city of Kandahar. [READ MORE](#)

6. EPS welcomes 25 new constables: Combat Engineer starts second career with Edmonton Police Force

CTV News

The Edmonton Police Service (EPS) recently welcomed 25 new constables into its ranks. The new recruits have a diverse background — they are from all around the world, and for many, it is their second career. This year's class, EPS's 144th, includes a tactical pilot, and international peacekeeper and combat engineer, Victoria Specht. "This is where I got posted for the military and I absolutely love this city; it's a very welcoming and diverse city," Specht said. [READ MORE](#)

5. James Melville: The man who brought the poppy to Canada

Originally published in the Ottawa Citizen, Nov. 4, 2014

The poppy campaign arrived in Canada thanks to an Ottawa soldier, Brig.-Gen. James Melville. He was an engineer by trade who fought in both world wars. Melville worked in senior positions in federal departments dealing with veterans until he retired in 1958. When Melville returned from fighting in the First World War, he was the director of an Ottawa workshop set up to employ disabled veterans. He got the manufacturing rights to the poppy symbol in the early 1920s so the lapel pins could be produced by those veterans. The profits from the poppies went to support vets and their families, as they still do today. "I promised... we would operate it on a non-profit basis," Melville told the Ottawa Journal in 1978. "And I kept that promise." [READ MORE](#)

4. D-Day Sapper attends Mess Dinner

CMEA

39 Combat Engineer Regiment held its annual D-Day Dinner on Saturday, June 8 and it was a great success. This year the format was a Mess Dinner as opposed to a mixed dining-in as in other years. Forty-four people attended the dinner and contingents from 15 Field RCA band and the J.P Fell band provided music. Also, the museum was open and visited by many guests who remarked on the changes that have taken place over the last year. [READ MORE](#)

3. Canadian Army Combat Engineers helping 'bridge the gap' in Ukraine

Government of Canada

Under the banner of Operation UNIFIER, Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) personnel have been sharing their expertise in the name of building capacity within the Security Forces of Ukraine since 2015. Op UNIFIER is a large, multinational effort that also includes Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States, Denmark and Sweden. [READ MORE](#)

2. An engineer needs your help / Un ingénieur a besoin de votre

aide

CMEA

The wife, mother-in-law, and 20-month old son of Corporal Brent Dewell of 32 CER in Toronto, were struck in a hit-and-run while waiting at a crosswalk on their way to church on Sunday morning. A suspect has been named.

The Toronto CMEA Chapter has support in place and the National Executive has approved support as well.

Additionally, Cpl Dewell has established a GoFundMe page and any support from members of the CMEA family would be greatly appreciated.

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L'épouse, la belle-mère et le fils de 20 mois du caporal Brent Dewell, du 32e CER de Toronto, ont été frappés par un délit de fuite alors qu'ils attendaient à un passage pour piétons alors qu'ils se dirigeaient vers l'église, dimanche matin. Un suspect a été nommé.

La section de l'AGMC – Toronto a un appui en place et l'Exécutif national a également approuvé le soutien.

De plus, le Cpl Dewell a créé une page GoFundMe et tout soutien des membres de la famille CME serait grandement apprécié. [READ MORE](#)

1. OCdt Michael Briggs (Ret'd)

Reprinted from Soldier On

I joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1986 and trained as a Combat Engineer, which involved an explosives training phase. On June 20, 1988, at Sleese Creek, CFB Chilliwack, I would survive the worst training accident in Canadian Forces School of Military Engineering history. While some members of my course dug a hole for charging, I cut and prepared the explosives. We were tired, the staff pushed us to work quickly, and while no one knows exactly what happened next, the charge detonated prematurely. I woke up with a course mate telling me to "stay with him," and six of my course mates were dead, including my best friend Bill Whitley. My friends Mike Byrdon, and Jeffrey Clark, were also severely injured. [READ MORE](#)