

Media Report 07 Oct 2022

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.

The Order of St. George

I want to congratulate Mr. Ted Bransfield on his well-deserved promotion from **Knight** to **Commander** in the Order of St. George last Friday at the Kingston Ontario Investiture.

The Order of St. George is a Chivalric Order whose Mission is “to better the health and well-being of members of the Canadian Armed Forces, Veterans and their families, and supports the Canadian Cadet and Junior Ranger Programs.”

The Grand Priory of Canada and the Americas of the Order of St. George was first established in 2003 in Niagara Falls, Ontario and continues a tradition that dates back to the 14th century. King Károly Róbert of Hungary (1288-1342), also known as Charles Robert, Duke of Anjou, founded the Fraternal Society of Knighthood of St George as the first monarchical, chivalric and secular order of its kind. While the exact date is lost to history, there is evidence that the Society was in existence in 1326 on St. George’s Day, now celebrated annually on April 23rd. Indeed, the story of St. George as a legend of Christian martyrdom informs the chivalric ideals that underpin our Order. Today our members are drawn from all walks of life and reflect the great diversity of our society. What joins us is our common cause of helping people in need.

The Knights and Dames of the Order are exceptional people, recognized for their significant contributions to society, while living the chivalric virtues of Faith, Service and Honour.

Message from VAC on the effects of Hurricane Fiona

Dear Stakeholders,
Hurricane Fiona has had a significant impact on folks across Atlantic Canada and parts of Quebec. Homes have been damaged, are without power and some are still isolated due to road blockages. Our hearts go out to all those who have been impacted by the storm. It is our hope that things begin to improve quickly.

Processing hurricane damage claims

TD Insurance
Dear Partner:

On Monday, Sept. 26th, we shared an initial communication with regards to Hurricane Fiona, to our affinity partners. Today, we wish to share additional updates, with all our affinity partners that may have members, alumni or employees, in these severely impacted regions.

As of Sept. 27th, 2022, 7:30 p.m., our Catastrophe Advisors Teams (CAT) continue to be on the ground in the most impacted areas. Our Mobile Response Unit (MRU) is opened, in Sydney, NS, where customers may connect with us in person.

Our claims teams continue to focus on making initial call outs to impacted customers and have contacted 1,865 of them. We have received a total of 2,424 residential claims, and a total of 387 automobile claims since Saturday, Sept. 24th.

Again, please note that customers who have been affected by Hurricane Fiona can [start a claim online](#) on our website, or through the TD [MyInsurance App](#). They can also contact us at **1-888-773-7022** if they have questions about their insurance coverage or to report a claim.

I've added [the link to TD Insurance's tweet](#) about our Mobile Response Unit (MRU) being on the ground, assisting our impacted customers.

As previously mentioned, TD Insurance continues to be present and will remain, as necessary, to support our customers and communities. Rest assured that we are actively working with our teams and with suppliers on the ground to assess and remediate the situation, as soon as possible, for our impacted customers.

As always, if you have questions or comments, please reach out directly to me.

Best regards,

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National commemoration for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

By CWO Stacy Merriam, MB, CD (Ret'd)

The Government of Canada marked the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with a national commemorative ceremony held in Ottawa at the Christ Church Cathedral. I had the privilege of being selected to represent the Canadian Military Engineers Association.

The ceremony began with a memorial parade in Ottawa, consisting of the Canadian Armed Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Following the

parade, approximately 600 invitees attended the ceremony, including government officials and representatives of organizations with whom Her Majesty had a close connection such as charities and military regiments.

VAC Frequently Asked Questions

1. How is the amount of a disability benefit determined?

The amount of a disability benefit you receive will be determined by:

- the degree to which that disability is related to your service (entitlement); and
- the extent of the disability (assessment).

Once it is established that your disability is related to your service, the next step is to determine the extent or severity of your disability so that we can assign an assessment level.

To learn more, see the [How Benefits Are Determined](#) section.

2. What are Entitlement Eligibility Guidelines?

[Entitlement Eligibility Guidelines](#) are policy statements used to guide the decision-making process and help in determining the relationship between your medical condition or disability and your service. The guidelines are based on credible medical evidence and research. Similar guidelines from across the country as well as the United States and Australia were reviewed during the development process. Entitlement Eligibility Guidelines help to ensure our decisions are consistent and fair.

3. What is the Table of Disabilities (TOD)?

The [TOD](#) is a legislated/statutory instrument used to assess the extent of a disability for the purposes of determining disability benefits. The table considers the relative importance of a certain body part/system in assessing the level of impairment and the impact of on an individual's lifestyle. The disability assessment is established based on the medical impairment rating, in conjunction with quality of life indicators.

4. What are medical questionnaires?

[Medical questionnaires](#) are forms we have developed for your healthcare provider to complete with all of the details of your disability. These standardized forms provide guidance for your health care provider to ensure he or she provides all of the necessary and relevant information we need to make a decision on your application for disability benefits. The medical questionnaires are used, along with other submitted medical information, to confirm your medical diagnosis and determine the impairment rating of your disability.

When you give your health care provider the [medical questionnaire](#), please be sure to also provide your completed and signed [Consent for Veterans Affairs Canada to Collect Personal Information from Third Parties](#) form which gives him or her the authority to release your personal medical information to us. If your

health care provider does not wish to fill out the questionnaire, they can provide a "narrative report" as an alternative. This report must include the same basic information as the questionnaire. Please do not have a medical questionnaire completed until you have been provided with specific instructions from us regarding the questionnaire(s) required. .

5. When can I expect to receive a decision?

We are committed to getting you a decision as soon as possible. In most cases, a decision will be made within 16 weeks of the Department receiving all the information required from you to support of your application.

6. What happens if my disability gets worse?

If the disability for which you are receiving VAC benefits worsens, you can request a reassessment if there is medical evidence to show that there has been a change in the severity of your disability. If a new condition develops that you think is related to your service, you can submit an application for that condition. If the reassessment confirms that your condition has worsened, your benefit will be adjusted accordingly-unless you are already receiving the maximum assessment as set out in the [Table of Disabilities](#). If that is the case, no additional amount can be provided.

7. I do not agree with the Department's decision on my application? What can I do?

If you do not agree with the decision you have received regarding your application for disability benefits, you have the right to appeal the decision or request a Departmental Review if you have new evidence. The [Bureau of Pensions Advocates \(BPA\)](#) and [The Royal Canadian Legion](#) both provide free assistance with reviews and appeals.

8. I'm having difficulty preparing my application for Disability Benefits. Can anyone help?

Yes, VAC staff are always happy to help you with your application or any other questions you may have. In addition, Service Officers with The Royal Canadian Legion or The War Amps of Canada also provide assistance with applications free of charge. You can find out more in the "[Who Can Help?](#)" section.

9. I am no longer living in Canada. Can I still get benefits?

In some circumstances, we can provide benefits to you while you are living or vacationing outside of Canada.

You can contact us toll-free, from:

- United States – Call 1-888-996-2242 (toll free)
- United Kingdom, Germany, France, or Belgium – Call 00-800-996-22421 (toll free)
- Any other country – 613-996-2242 (collect)

10. When will benefits start?

If you receive a favourable decision letter, it will indicate a start date.

11. [How do I get my service health records?](#)

12. Why can I only get a Disability Award and not a monthly pension?

The monthly disability pension has been replaced with a combination of financial benefits that have been designed to meet your individual needs.

Our [Earnings Loss program](#), for example, provides you with a monthly income of 90 % of your pre-release salary while you are participating in our [rehabilitation program](#) or until age 65 if you are not able to work. The Disability Award is paid as a one time award to help you overcome any immediate financial concerns and as an opportunity for you to generate income. It is not taxable. There are flexible Disability Award payment options from which to choose: a lump-sum payment, annual payments over the number of years of your choosing, or a combination of these two payment options.

13. If I receive a significant compensation through the Disability Award, can I get advice to help me manage it?

Yes. In fact, we encourage you to get a financial expert's [advice](#) to help you manage this compensation. Veterans Affairs Canada will cover the cost of that advice up to \$500.

IN THE MEDIA

[Canadian military called in amid Hurricane Fiona's devastation](#)
[Post-tropical storm Fiona updates: Here's what happened Sept. 25](#)

[L'armée déployée en Nouvelle-Écosse après le passage destructeur de Fiona](#)
[Over 400 participate in 2022 Iron Warrior](#)

[The Royal Canadian Engineers and Operation Berlin](#)

[Exercice militaire sur la rivière Saguenay et au port de Grande-Anse](#)

[Military warns about recruitment issues as Canadians shy away](#)

STAY IN TOUCH WITH THESE CF NEWSPAPERS

Base/Wing — Newspaper

14 Wing Greenwood — [The Aurora](#)

17 Wing Winnipeg — [The Voxair](#)

22 Wing North Bay — [The Shield](#)

CFB Halifax — [The Trident](#)

4 Wing Cold Lake — [The Courier](#)

CFB Edmonton — [The Western Sentinel](#)

CFB Esquimalt — [The Lookout](#)

CFB Valcartier — [The Adsum](#)

CFSU Ottawa — [The Guard](#)

CFB Kingston — [Garrison News](#)

CFB Shilo — [The Shilo Stag](#)

CFB St Jean — [The Servir](#)

19 Wing Comox — [The Totem Times](#)

3 Wing Bagotville — [The Vortex](#)

8 Wing Trenton — [The Contact](#)

CFB Borden — [The Citizen](#)

CFB Petawawa — [The Petawawa Post](#)

Base Gagetown — [Gagetown Gazette](#)