

## **Media Report 23 June 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.

### **The application form/ HOW TO APPLY/ WHAT INFO IS REQUIRED**

The first sections of the [Disability Benefits \(Pain and Suffering Compensation/Disability Pension\)](#) application form (A through D) are for your personal information (name, address, marital status, etc.). Section E is for your service information. Section F is where you tell us about your condition and its impact on your quality of life; it includes two main parts:

1. Health condition details – to identify your diagnosed chronic or permanent medical condition and to describe how your condition affects you (e.g., daily activities at home, recreation, your relationships, etc.).
2. Your applicant statement – an opportunity to explain how your condition is related to service. This is a key part of your application and will be important to determine your eligibility.

An effective applicant statement will answer these types of questions:

- How is this condition related to or aggravated by your service, or another service-related condition?;
- Did you seek medical attention?;
- Was your condition caused by a single event or by a repetitive injury?;
- Do you have a CF98 (Report on Injuries) or a witness statement related to the condition?;
- Were you on leave or on duty at the time of your injury?;
- Were you serving in a Special Duty Area or on Special Duty Operations?;
- Are there any other details you consider relevant to the illness or injury?

If your condition was caused by more than one event, your applicant statement should explain the series of events related to your service (or to a different service-related condition) that caused your permanent or chronic

condition. If you are applying for more than one condition, please complete a separate "Section F – Tell us about your condition" for each condition.

**The complete application package will also include:**

**Your health records**

This can include your medical reports (e.g., diagnostic reports, discharge summaries, consultation reports, etc.). Usually, we will get these from your service health records. If the information is not in those records, we will contact you.

For Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Veterans and serving members:

We will request a copy of your [health records](#) directly from the Department of National Defence (serving members or recently released) or from Library and Archives Canada (if you are no longer serving).

For Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP):

We will get a copy of your [health records and service file](#) directly from the RCMP. So we can do that, you need to include a complete [Consent for VAC to Collect Personal Information from Third Parties form](#) with your application. [\(See below for details\)](#).

If you also have medical documents from a non-CAF or non-RCMP health professional that would support the diagnosis of your condition, please include these with your application.

**Medical questionnaires**

If you are a serving CAF member, your service health records will usually have the information we require. If not, we will contact you.

If you are a Veteran or RCMP member (current or former), we will send the relevant medical questionnaire(s) directly to you for your current doctor or health care professional to complete and sign.

**Your application package may also need to include:**

**Third-party consent form**

To have VAC communicate directly with your doctor or health professional, you need to provide a signed [Consent for VAC to Collect Personal Information from Third Parties form](#) with your application.

Additional situations where this form is required include:

- If you are a current or former member of the RCMP, or
- If you are awaiting, receiving, or have ever received payment for this

condition from anyone other than VAC (e.g., Worker's Compensation Board, third party insurance, etc.)

### **Direct Deposit form**

The [Direct Deposit Request form](#) allows us to send your financial benefits directly to your bank account if we confirm that you have a service-related disability. If you have already enrolled for Direct Deposit with VAC, you only need to complete and return this form again if you want to make changes to your banking information.

### **Proof of identity**

If it is your first time applying for a VAC benefit, you will also need to provide your current and valid proof of identity. You can mail a copy or submit an electronic copy using My VAC Account. Current and valid proofs of identify include:

- Driver's license (provincial);
- Provincial health care card (if it includes photo identification);
- Other provincial identification card;
- Other federal identification card;
- Certificate of Indian Status;
- Vital statistics documents (birth certificate, marriage certificate);
- Employee identification card (Federal, provincial or municipal);
- Canadian passport ; or
- Department of National Defence (DND) Casualty Notification.

You only need to re-submit your proof of identity if there has been a change (such as a name change, moved to another province, etc.).

### **How do I know I have a complete application?**

A complete application for a disability benefit will have all the information we need to make a decision regarding your diagnosed medical condition and its

relation to your service. Read more about [how we review a disability benefit application](#).

## **Apply online or by mail**

### **Apply online using My VAC Account**

Use the guided web form to apply for disability benefits in [My VAC Account](#). The application is easy and fast. Your form saves automatically, so you can start your application and come back later to finish it. The questions are targeted to your condition, and the form automatically fills in some information for you when possible, and ensures you have completed all areas.

### **Apply by mail using a paper form**

If you are mailing in your application, be sure to carefully review the checklist (Section I of the application package) and the "before you send your application" section to ensure you have included all the information we need.

## **Disability Award Increase**

### **Index**

- [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?](#)
- [Do I need to complete a VAC 888 Disability Award Payment Options to receive this additional payment?](#)
- [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?
- Is there a plan to have the Disability Pension increased in addition to its annual indexing?

- [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 service-related 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**

**[The Ukrainian army has already lost half of its unique Leopard 2R breaching vehicles](#)**

**[Canada seizes Russian An-124, pledges Ukraine F-16 support](#)**

**[Des leçons inuites pour les soldats de l'Arctique](#)**

**[Changing climate, wildfire risk a chance for Canada to refit military](#)**

**[Journée des Forces armées canadiennes à North Bay : plus de 3500 élèves de la fête](#)**

## **2 CER Change of Appointment**

Via Facebook

The CoA parade was held June 2, with the 2 CER troops arriving via Medium Floating Raft for outgoing RSM Mike Thompson and incoming RSM Frank Bernier. Pic 2 below is the arrival of the Regiment to the parade ground. Pic 1 is CWO Thompson in front of the parade. Pic 3 is CWO Bernier marching the parade off at the end of the ceremony.



## Base/Wing — Newspaper

14 Wing Greenwood — [The Aurora](#)  
22 Wing North Bay — [The Shield](#)  
4 Wing Cold Lake — [The Courier](#)  
CFB Esquimalt — [The Lookout](#)  
CFSU Ottawa — [The Guard](#)  
CFB Shilo — [The Shilo Stag](#)  
19 Wing Comox — [The Totem Times](#)  
8 Wing Trenton — [The Contact](#)  
CFB Petawawa — [The Petawawa Post](#)

17 Wing Winnipeg — [The Voxair](#)  
CFB Halifax — [The Trident](#)  
CFB Edmonton — [The Western Sentinel](#)  
CFB Valcartier — [The Adsum](#)  
CFB Kingston — [Garrison News](#)  
CFB St Jean — [The Servir](#)  
3 Wing Bagotville — [The Vortex](#)  
CFB Borden — [The Citizen](#)  
Base Gagetown — [Gagetown Gazette](#)