

## Media Report 14 August 2020

**This weeks media reports will cover and answer great questions veterans are still asking such as Frequently asked questions regarding COVID-19 in Ottawa. Due to ongoing and evolving COVID-19 pandemic, callers may experience increased wait times when calling the Government of Canada Pension Center. Callers may also experience dropped calls, as all telecommunication networks across Canada are presently facing capacity challenges. and local Media Articles and 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. Have you made an application for disability benefits from Veterans Affairs Canada and received a decision? If you disagree with that decision, you have the right to review or appeal it.**

## **Government to Provide one time support payment to disabled Veterans**

Comrades All, Veterans who have one of the following disability supports provided by Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC): will be entitled to received the COVID-19 one time \$600.00 tax free payment for those Canadians with disabilities.

- Disability Pension
- Disability Award
- Pain and Suffering Compensation
- Critical Injury Benefit
- Rehabilitation Services and Vocational Assistance Program
- Income Replacement Benefit, and/or
- Canadian Forces Income Support

Further information and details can be found on the link below. It seem that there will be no need to apply and that the payment will be automatic and expected sometime this fall to show up by cheque or direct deposit.

For Seniors that have already received the \$300.00 payment and are eligible for the disability payment, it will be reduced to an additional \$300.00, for those that were also on GIS and received \$500.00, the payment will be an additional \$100.00

Please ensure that your members and local Veterans are aware that the payment will be coming this fall.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/covid19-emergency-benefits/one-time-payment-persons-disabilities.html>

Shoulder to Shoulder,

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## **Operational Stress Injury Resource for Caregivers**

September 19, 2019 As a caregiver of a Veteran of military member living with an Operational Stress Injury (OSI), you may be facing significant challenges in supporting your loved one while managing other responsibilities related to work, life, and family. This resource is designed for you, and is intended to provide OSI education as well as self-care tools to support you in your caregiver role.

We take this opportunity as well to thank you for the essential role you play in supporting your loves one who has served or continues to serve the country.

URL

[Operational Stress Injury Resource for Caregivers](#)

## **Tax credits and deductions for persons with disabilities**

Tax credits and deductions are available for persons with disabilities, their supporting family members, and their caregivers.

[What's new](#)

### **I want information on:**

- [Disability tax credit](#)
- [Medical expenses](#)
- [Disability supports deduction](#)

- [Child disability benefit](#)
- [Registered disability savings plan](#)

## Find out how you can benefit

Meet the people who may be eligible for the disability tax credit or other government programs for persons with disabilities.

## Related links

- [What can persons with disabilities claim as a deduction or credit?](#)
- [GST/HST Information](#) – Goods and services that are exempt supplies or zero-rated for the GST/HST
- [Excise gasoline tax refund](#)
- [Free tax clinics](#)
- [Authorize or cancel a representative](#)
- [Services for persons with disabilities](#)
- [Disability benefits](#)

## Tax season may be over 30 Sept, but here's why double checking your last filing may be in order

<https://financialpost.com/personal-finance/taxes/tax-season-may-be-over-but-heres-why-double-checking-your-last-filing-may-be-in-order>

## IN THE NEWS

### News and Notifications from VAC

## What's new

### COVID-19 support and initiatives

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the global outbreak of COVID-19 a pandemic. While area offices remain closed to the public, you can still reach us through secure messaging in My VAC Account, or by phone at 1-866-522-2122. You can also visit [COVID-19 information and assistance for Veterans](#) for more information and access to resources.

Are you looking for tips to help guide you during these uncertain times? LifeSpeak offers resources to help you navigate and manage the various challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. [Sign in to LifeSpeak](#) (password: canada)

If you are a caregiver, it is important during these uncertain times that you look after yourself too. The Caregiver Zone is an online tool that provides support and information on a wide range of topics. [Sign in to the Caregiver Zone](#)

## **70th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War**

June 25 marked 70 years since the Korean War began. We honour and remember those Canadians who served in the multinational force to help defend peace and freedom in the Republic of Korea. [Learn more about the Korean war](#)

## **75th anniversary of V-E Day**

On May 8, a virtual ceremony took place to mark the 75th anniversary of V-E Day — the end of the Second World War in Europe. [Learn more about V-E day](#)

## **The VAC Assistance Service has changed to better meet your needs**

When you call, you will have a menu option for language preference, then the opportunity to ask to speak immediately with a mental health professional or to get a mental health referral in your area. This change will make sure the appropriate mental health service is available to you based on your needs. Call 1-800-268-7708 to speak to a mental health professional 24/7

VAC offices and Service Canada Centres are currently closed to the public due to COVID-19. You can continue to connect with us by [secure messaging](#) or calling 1-866-522-2122. Learn more [h](#)The Chronic Pain Centre of Excellence for Canadian Veterans has officially been launc

The Centre will be a leader in Veteran-first chronic pain research, working to improve the quality of life for Veterans living with chronic pain, and ultimately help them reconnect to the world around them. [Learn more about the Centre of Excellence](#)

## **Now available: Crisis Text Line for kids from military families**

Kids can now access help for free by texting CAFKIDS to 686868 (available 24/7 across Canada). The Crisis Text Line, which is confidential and free, is powered by Kids Help Phone and supported by True Patriot Love Foundation. [Learn more about the Crisis Text Line](#)

## **June 27 was Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) Awareness Day**

40 years ago, PTSD was officially recognized as a mental health disorder. As a society, we have made great strides in understanding this disorder. Although we have come a long way, we must continue the work of finding the most effective treatments and supports for people with PTSD. [Learn more about the history of PTSD](#)

## **You can now upload your audiogram for hearing loss in My VAC Account**

If your hearing loss is related to your service, you should apply for a disability benefit. Now, when you apply online, you can add your audiogram directly in the guided form.

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### **IN THE NEWS**

Canada offers assistance to Lebanon after massive blast rocks Beirut

National Sentry Program 2020 begins at the National War Memorial

Military exercise in Arctic aims to send message without spreading COVID-19

Le Canada mène un exercice militaire dans l'Arctique

Floating bridge helps Fort Simpson residents walk on water

Work begins earlier than expected on GDLS combat support vehicle

Le Canada réduit le nombre de ses militaires en Irak

And they're off to RIMPAC 2020

Canadian military to continue flying old rescue planes as COVID-19 delays new aircraft

A farewell to armor: Marine Corps shuts down tank units, hauls away M1A1s