

## **Media Report 08 November 2019,**

This weeks media report will cover Caregiver Benefit Service, Veterans have been asking questions on this service. The info in this report will give the Families and our Senior Veterans the information required to keep living a dignified retirement either in their home or at a Health Care Facility and Métis Veterans of Canada have received recognition for our World War II Veterans.

### **Pension indexing rate for 2020**

Effective Jan. 1, 2020, the indexing increase for public service, Canadian Armed Forces, RCMP and federally appointed judges' pensions will rise to two per cent. More information on the calculation of this index can be found in [the News and Views section of our website](#).

### **Calendar of Events to highlight national events of interest to Veterans**

The purpose of this calendar is to highlight national events of interest to Veterans, those with a connection to Canada's military, past or present, and the Canadian public-at-large.

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/events>

### **World War II Métis Veteran Recognition**

In the last couple of months the Métis Veterans of Canada have received recognition for our World War II Veterans that did not receive all the benefits of other non Aboriginal Veterans. With this recognition came an official apology from the Federal Government and a cash award to all living World War II Veterans.

Yesterday I attended the first meeting for the Métis World War II Recognition Legacy Fund round table. The building of the award and management of the Legacy Fund was discussed. As per the agreement as laid out by the Federal Government. All living World War II Métis Veterans will receive a message of Official Apology from the Federal government along with a cheque for \$20,000. If the Métis World War II Veteran has passed within the last three years (From June 13, 2019) the award will then go to the Spouse. If the Spouse has passed it will then be paid to the children of the Veteran. If there are no children, then the award will be put back into the Legacy Fund.

The remainder of the Legacy fund will then be managed by a Committee Trust Board for the purposes of supporting Métis Veteran Commemorative initiatives that promote awareness and appreciation of Métis Veteran's sacrifices and contributions to the Métis people as well as the general Canadian public.

The reason I am writing to you is we cannot possibly reach all communities and we know for sure that there are other veterans out there that have not identified themselves. We are planning to have consultations with families and Veterans but right now our main focus is to find any more living WWII Veterans. So I am requesting your Service Officers do a check of their veterans within the RCL membership. If you have any living Métis World War II Veterans to communicate that back to me so we can arrange to get them their apology and award. I will be glad to answer any questions you have. I thank you in advance for helping us connect with eligible Métis Veterans.

[Honouring our Metis Veterans of the Second World War](#)

Brian Black

President

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Métis Veterans, Fighting for Canada Before there was a Canada

## **Caregiver Recognition Benefit**

Do you need assistance with daily activities? When you have a serious disability you may need help with activities of daily living such as eating, walking, dressing, etc.

### **About this program**

Having a disability sometimes means you need ongoing care to remain in your home. The Caregiver Recognition Benefit recognizes the important role a caregiver delivers on a day-to-day basis by providing them \$1000 per month, tax free.

To receive this benefit your case manager will conduct or arrange an assessment to confirm that you require the assistance of a caregiver.

### **Do you qualify?**

You should apply for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit if:

- are a former member of the Canadian Armed Forces,

- have a Disability Award,
- you are not a permanent resident of a nursing home or long-term care facility,
- require ongoing assistance with activities of daily living related to your awarded condition, and
- your ongoing care (expected to last at least 12 months) should be to the extent that:
  - you need daily physical assistance of another person for at least four of your activities of daily living (See: [What are activities of daily living?](#) ), and
- your informal caregiver is:
  - not paid to provide or co-ordinate your care; and
  - 18 years of age or older

\* This program is only available to recipients of a disability award. If you have a disability pension or POW compensation of 1% or more, you can apply for a similar benefit—the [Attendance allowance](#).

## **How to apply**

### **Before you apply**

As part of your application, your caregiver will be asked to provide proof of identity, for example a driver's licence. We need this from any person applying to Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) for the first time.

Fill out the application form with your caregiver. Both of you must sign the form. You can expect a decision within eight weeks of submitting your application. Your caregiver will begin to receive the benefit within nine weeks.

### **Apply online**

If you are registered for My VAC Account, you can submit your application for this benefit online. My VAC Account offers a guided web form that makes applying easier. 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 application directly to the address listed on the form.

### **Get help with your application**

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

## **Additional information**

### **Find out more**

See the [current rates](#).

Over time, to ensure your health and well-being, we may perform a review or re-assessment of your situation once you're in the program.

Please let us know if your caregiver changes. You will need to submit a new application any time your caregiver changes.

[Watch this video](#) for a quick overview of the Caregiver Recognition Benefit.

## **Related programs**

[Caregiver Zone](#) - Online support and resources for those who care for Veterans.

[Disability Benefit](#) - Compensation for your service-related injury or illness.

[Attendance allowance](#) - Monthly payments if your health needs require personal care support.

## **Frequently asked questions**

### **If I apply for the benefit and get declined, can I appeal?**

Yes. If you are not satisfied with a decision you may apply in writing for a review. Learn more about your [review and appeal options](#).

### **If the benefit is paid to my caregiver, why do I need to apply?**

Since it is your health needs that require the services of a caregiver, you must apply for the benefit. However, your caregiver is required to complete and sign a section of the application. If you have granted power of attorney to someone, that person may apply on your behalf.

### **Is there a time limit to apply for this benefit?**

You can apply for this benefit at any time.

### **Are there policies for this program?**

Read more about the [Caregiver Recognition Benefit policies](#).

## **Questions and answers**

### **Q1. What is the Caregiver Recognition Benefit?**

It is a new tax-free benefit of \$1,000 a month, paid directly to your informal caregiver.

### **Q2. Will eligibility for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit be the same as for the Family Caregiver Relief Benefit?**

Yes. Eligibility criteria for the new benefit are the same as those for the old benefit. The main difference is that the new benefit is a monthly, tax-free amount paid directly to your caregiver.

### **Q3. If I currently receive the Family Caregiver Relief Benefit, will my caregiver receive the new benefit automatically or do I need to apply again?**

Earlier this year, we sent all current FCRB recipients information in the mail on the new program and how the changes will impact you. Because the benefit has a new name, payment structure and is payable to your caregiver, you will need to apply for the benefit again. As the new benefit provides direct payment to your caregiver both you and your caregiver must fill-out and sign your application.

### **Q4. Will I continue to receive the Family Caregiver Relief Benefit up until I apply for the new benefit, or will payments stop as of April 1, 2018?**

The FCRB was a yearly payment, therefore whenever you received your last payment prior to April 1, 2018, that will be your last annual payment. The new Caregiver Recognition Benefit has a monthly payment structure. You will need to reapply for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit to ensure that your caregiver begins

to receive payments under the new benefit. The application process is expected to take eight weeks and you can expect payment within 9 weeks.

#### **Q5. Who is eligible for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit?**

You may qualify for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit if you have a Disability Award and

- as a result of the condition for which you have received the Disability Award you require ongoing care to the extent that:
  - you need a level of care and supervision that is consistent with admission to an institution or nursing home,
  - you need daily physical assistance of another person for at least four of your activities of daily living [See [Q8: What are activities of daily living?](#) ],
  - you need ongoing direction and supervision during the performance of at least four of your activities of daily living, or
  - you need daily supervision and are only considered safe when you are left alone for short periods of time
- you have an informal (unpaid) caregiver who provides or co-ordinates your care;
- your need for care is ongoing (expected to last at least 12 months)
- your informal caregiver is 18 years of age or older and is not paid for providing or coordinating your care; and
- you are not a permanent resident of a nursing home or long-term care facility.

#### **Q6. I am covered under the Pension Act, am I eligible for CRB?**

No. This program is available to recipients of a Disability Award. If you are covered under the Pension Act, you are not eligible for CRB. However, if you have a disability pension or prisoner-of-war compensation of one percent or more, you can apply for Attendance Allowance. Similar to the Caregiver Recognition Benefit, the [Attendance Allowance](#) is a benefit available when you need help with daily living tasks and are considered totally disabled.

#### **Q7. Can serving Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members receive CRB?**

No. Members of the Canadian Armed Forces who are serving are not eligible for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit.

#### **Q8. What are activities of daily living?**

Activities of daily living are a set of activities necessary for self-care. They include:

- Feeding – eating prepared foods and drinking (e.g., cutting-up food, buttering bread)
- Washing – washing face, trunk, extremities and hair
- Dressing – putting on and taking off all pieces of indoor and outdoor clothing
- Grooming/foot care/personal care – brushing hair and teeth; shaving and applying make-up; skin and nail care; cleansing and personal care associated with toileting

- Toileting – continence of bowel and bladder; using toilet facilities
- Taking medication – preparing and self-administering medication
- Mobility
  - Transfers – changing body position independently (e.g., positioning the body from lying to sitting, sitting to standing, lying on the back to lying on the side)
  - Ambulation – moving the body from one point in space to another (e.g., climbing stairs, walking)

**Q9. Can a caregiver that is being paid to provide care receive a payment under the Caregiver Recognition Benefit?**

No. Paid caregivers do not qualify to receive the Caregiver Recognition Benefit.

**Q10. Is there a time limit to apply for this benefit?**

No. You can apply for this benefit at any time.

**Q11. How do I apply for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit?**

All applications must be signed by both you and your caregiver. Because of this you will need to download the [application](#) and fill it out with your caregiver. If you are registered for My VAC Account, you can access the application for Caregiver Recognition Benefit online. If you aren't registered you can [register now](#).

You can drop it off – or get help filling it out – at a VAC Area Office.

You can also download the application form and then send it to us directly through the mail.

Veterans Affairs Canada

PO Box 6000

Matane, QC G4W 0E4

**Q12. If the benefit is paid to my caregiver, why can't my caregiver apply?**

Since it is your health needs that require the services of a caregiver, you must apply for the benefit. If you have granted power of attorney to someone, that person may apply on your behalf. However, your caregiver is required to complete and sign a section of the application.

**Q13. Is the Caregiver Recognition Benefit intended to provide employment income in lieu of the caregiver having other employment?**

No. The Caregiver Recognition Benefit is not intended as income for work. A Veteran's caregiver may be employed and still receive this benefit if they provide or co-ordinate the Veteran's care in the home. The benefit is meant to recognize caregivers for the daily support they provide to ill and/or injured Veterans.

**Q14. Why did you make this change?**

Veterans Affairs Canada made this change to better recognize the contribution that informal caregivers make to the health and well-being of Veterans. Veterans and their representatives also made requests for this type of recognition.

**Q15. Will access to this benefit be easier, compared to the existing Family Caregiver Relief Benefit?**

Yes. For the Family Caregiver Relief Benefit, you had to complete an initial

application and then a renewal form each year after that.

With the Caregiver Recognition Benefit, you will need to make an initial application only. While there is no need for you to complete a renewal form, Veterans Affairs Canada will carry out reviews and assessments to make sure you continue to meet program criteria and your health and well-being is not at risk. Where possible, Veterans Affairs Canada will verify information collected from assessments conducted for other benefits and services to determine your continued eligibility for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit.

**Q16. Who is considered a caregiver?**

A caregiver is a person 18 years of age or older who plays an essential role in the provision or coordination of ongoing care to you in your home for which the caregiver receives no payment.

The informal caregiver is not required to live with you. At the time of application, the caregiver will attest to the fact that he or she is:

- 18 years of age or older,
- Plays an essential role in providing or coordinating your ongoing care in your home, and
- Is not paid for providing or coordinating this care.

**Q17. Why does someone have to be 18 years of age to be considered a caregiver?**

Canadian law requires that Veterans' informal caregivers must be 18 years of age or older. The age of 18 years was determined to be appropriate given the nature and degree of the Veteran's care needs as well as the degree and intensity of the required caregiving/care co-ordination responsibilities.

**Q18. Can a caregiver receive the benefit on behalf of multiple Veterans?**

Yes. It is possible for more than one Veteran to designate the same caregiver. The caregiver must be fulfilling their role of providing support to be entitled to receive multiple payments.

**Q19. Can I change my caregiver?**

Yes. If you want to change your caregiver, please call us to let us know as soon as possible. You will need to submit a new application if you are changing caregivers, so to ensure payments to your new caregiver are processed as quickly as possible, contact us as soon as you know you will be changing caregivers. Please keep in mind that application processing takes eight weeks and you can expect payment within 9 weeks.

**Q20. Can the benefit be paid to my caregiver if we live outside Canada?**

Yes. The benefit can be paid to your caregiver if you both live outside Canada.

**Q21. What if my Disability Award is for a mental health condition and not a physical condition? Can I still apply for the new benefit?**

Yes. If you have a mental health condition, you may still be approved for the benefit, as long as you meet the criteria of needing assistance with the activities of daily living, or if you require ongoing care or daily supervision.

**Q22. If my application is denied, can I appeal the decision?**

You can request a review of a decision by contacting Veterans Affairs Canada in writing within 60 days of the date you receive the decision. You are not required to provide additional information for a review, but you may do so if you believe it may help explain why you feel the decision was incorrect.

**Q23. For Veterans who currently collect the Family Caregiver Relief Benefit, how will the transition to the new Caregiver Recognition Benefit occur? Will current recipients be notified of the new benefit?**

Current recipients of the FCRB will need to apply for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit as there are some changes to the information that is collected, including the requirement for the caregiver to provide their information and sign the application. The Veteran will not be required to provide any supporting documentation at the time of application. VAC will verify information that is already on file and will contact the Veteran if any additional information is needed.

All existing FCRB clients were sent a bulletin in February 2018 with information notifying them of the new benefit and how this will impact them. During the first week of April, a copy of the new application will be mailed out to all existing FCRB clients to complete and send back to VAC.

**Q24. Are payments to the caregiver retroactive to the date of application if there is a delay in processing?**

The Caregiver Recognition Benefit is payable from the 1st day of the month in which the completed application is received. There are no pro-rated payments. VAC's goal is to make a decision and have the first payment for caregivers of eligible clients sent out within nine weeks.

## **Caregiver Recognition Benefit Policy**

**For the purpose of administering this policy, the following definitions apply:**

**Activities of daily living** – a set of activities necessary for self-care. The following Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) are considered for the purpose of determining if a Veteran meets the criteria set out in subparagraphs 65.2(a)(ii) [i.e. daily physical assistance of another person for most activities of daily living] or 65.2(a)(iii) [i.e. ongoing direction and supervision during the performance of most activities of daily living] of the [Veterans Well-being Regulations](#) (see paragraph 2).

**Mobility (considered 1 ADL):**

- Transfers – changing the position of the body independently (e.g. positioning the body from lying to sitting, sitting to standing, lying on the back to lying on the side, etc.); and
- Ambulation – moving the body from one point in space to another (e.g.

climbing stairs, walking, etc.).

**Self-care (6 ADLs):**

- Feeding – eating and drinking of prepared foods (e.g. cutting up food, buttering bread, etc.).
- Washing – washing of face, trunk, extremities and hair.
- Dressing – putting on and taking off all pieces of indoor and outdoor clothing.
- Grooming/Foot Care/Personal Care – brushing of hair and teeth, shaving and make-up application, skin and nail care, cleansing and personal care associated with toileting.
- Toileting – continence of bowel and bladder, using toilet facilities.
- Taking medication – preparing and self-administering medication.

**Care** – in relation to ongoing care, means the provision or coordination of any activity that is necessary for the health, welfare, maintenance and protection of an individual who is in need of support due to a physical, mental and/or cognitive condition.

**Home** – means the dwelling, other than a health care facility, in which the Veteran normally resides.

**Informal Caregiver** – a person 18 years of age or older who plays an essential role in the provision or coordination of ongoing care to the Veteran in the Veteran’s home, for which the person receives no remuneration.

**Instrumental activities of daily living** – daily activities that individuals normally do, unassisted, to live independently. Instrumental Activities of Daily Living cannot be used for the purpose of determining if a Veteran meets the criteria set out in subparagraphs 65.2(a)(ii) or 65.2(a)(iii) of the [Veterans Well-being Regulations](#). However, the following Instrumental Activities of Daily Living are considered for the purpose of determining if the informal caregiver plays an essential role in the provision or coordination of ongoing care to the Veteran in the Veteran’s home (see paragraph 4):

- Preparing food,
- Managing money (e.g. banking, paying bills),
- Driving or accessing public transportation,
- Using the telephone,
- Running errands,
- Shopping,
- Housekeeping,
- Grounds maintenance.

## Eligibility

2. A Veteran is eligible for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit under section 65.1 of the [Veterans Well-being Act](#) :
  1. the Veteran has had an application for a disability award or pain and suffering compensation approved under section 45 of the [Veterans Well-being Act](#) ;
  2. the Veteran requires ongoing care as a result of the health condition(s) for which the disability award application was approved;
  3. the Veteran has not been awarded a pension or compensation under the [Pension Act](#);
  4. an informal caregiver who is 18 years of age or older plays an essential role in the provision or coordination of the ongoing care to the Veteran in the Veteran's home for which the informal caregiver receives no remuneration (see paragraph 4); and
  5. the Veteran requires at least one of the following:
    1. a level of care and supervision consistent with admission to an institution such as a long term care facility;
    2. daily physical assistance of another person for most activities of daily living;
    3. ongoing direction and supervision during the performance of most activities of daily living; or
    4. daily supervision and is not considered to be safe when left alone (i.e. Veteran poses a risk to him/herself or others if not supervised on a daily basis).
3. A Veteran is considered to need ongoing care, if his/her health condition(s):
  1. are continuous, and unlikely to substantially improve; or
  2. the duration cannot be determined, but are not expected to substantially improve for at least 12 months.
4. An informal caregiver plays an essential role in the provision or coordination of the ongoing care to a Veteran in the Veteran's home if there is evidence that:
  1. the Veteran relies on the informal caregiver to provide or coordinate:
    1. daily supervision;
    2. direction and/or physical assistance with most activities of daily living; or
    3. assistance with completion of instrumental activities of daily living; and
  2. the Veteran's health and well-being would be placed at risk and the provision or coordination of the Veteran's ongoing care would be compromised without the informal caregiver.
5. The phrase "most activities of daily living" is interpreted to mean a minimum of four (4) activities out of seven (7). Mobility is considered to

be one activity of daily living.

6. In some situations, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to separate the impact of a health condition for which a disability award or pain and suffering compensation has been granted from other non-entitled health conditions. In circumstances where there is a reasonable doubt or uncertainty as to whether the need for ongoing care is a result of the condition(s) for which the disability award or pain and suffering compensation is approved, then the reasonable doubt or uncertainty should be resolved in the Veteran's favour.

### **Excluded Groups**

7. A still-serving member of the Canadian Armed Forces is not eligible for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit.
8. A Veteran who resides in a health care facility wherein the level of care provided eliminates the need for an informal caregiver is not eligible for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit.

### **Application for Benefit**

9. Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) staff will guide the Veteran through the Caregiver Recognition Benefit application process in an effort to eliminate unnecessary administrative burden. Given the eligibility requirements for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit and its relationship to the Veteran's disability award or pain and suffering compensation, VAC may already have much of the necessary information including medical, nursing and/or other assessments/records. VAC will use this information to confirm the Veteran's health condition. If required the Veteran will be asked to provide additional information or to undergo further assessment to support the application.
10. A Veteran is required to designate the person who is acting as the Veteran's informal caregiver on the application.
11. A Veteran may designate only one informal caregiver on the application.
12. The informal caregiver designated by a Veteran is required to provide information on and sign the Veteran's application for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit.
13. A Veteran is required to submit a new application for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit if the Veteran's designated informal caregiver changes.

### **Ongoing Eligibility**

14. A Caregiver Recognition Benefit is paid on an ongoing basis to a Veteran's designated informal caregiver provided the Veteran continues to meet the eligibility requirements.
15. VAC may require:

1. a Veteran and the Veteran's designated informal caregiver to provide information or documentation, and
  2. a Veteran to undergo an assessment
- to allow VAC to assess the Veteran's continued eligibility for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit.

### **Payment of Benefit**

16. A Caregiver Recognition Benefit is paid directly to the informal caregiver designated by the Veteran.
17. The amount of a Caregiver Recognition Benefit is set out in Schedule 2 of the [Veterans Well-being Act](#) (see column 2 of item 5). The amount will be indexed annually on January 1st based on the Consumer Price Index.
18. A Caregiver Recognition Benefit is not subject to income tax.
19. A Caregiver Recognition Benefit is not payable unless a duly completed and signed application (i.e. application form plus any other pertinent information) has been made by or on behalf of the Veteran, the Veteran's designated informal caregiver has completed and signed his or her portion of the Veteran's application, and payment of the benefit has been approved by the appropriate decision maker.
20. Only one designated informal caregiver may be paid the Caregiver Recognition Benefit regardless of the number of informal caregivers involved in providing or coordinating the ongoing care to the Veteran in the Veteran's home.

### **Date Payable – Application for Benefit**

21. A Caregiver Recognition Benefit begins to be payable on the first day of the month in which the application for the benefit is made.

### **Application Made**

22. An application is considered to be made on the earlier of:
  1. the date stamped on the application when it is received by the Department; or
  2. the date the application is received at the Digital Images Scanning Centre in Matane, QC.

### **Date Payable – Application to Replace Informal Caregiver**

23. If a Veteran replaces his or her designated informal caregiver with a new designated informal caregiver, the Caregiver Recognition Benefit begins to be payable to the new designated informal caregiver on the later of:
  1. the first day of the month in which the new application is made, and
  2. the day on which the benefit ceases to be payable to the previous designated informal caregiver.

## **Payment Ceases**

24.A Caregiver Recognition Benefit ceases to be payable to a designated informal caregiver on the earliest of:

1. the first day of the month after the month in which any of the eligibility requirements set out in paragraph 2(a) to (e) are no longer met,
2. the first day of the month after the month in which the Veteran makes a new application to replace the designated informal caregiver with a new designated informal caregiver, or
3. the first day of the month after the month in which the Veteran or the designated informal caregiver dies.

## **Requirement to Notify**

25.A Veteran is required to advise VAC if there is any change in circumstances which would affect the Veteran's eligibility for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit or if the Veteran's designated informal caregiver dies.

26.A designated informal caregiver is required to advise VAC if he or she is no longer playing an essential role in providing or coordinating the ongoing care to the Veteran in the Veteran's home, if he or she begins to receive remuneration for providing or coordinating the care, or if the Veteran dies.

## **Suspension and Cancellation of Benefit**

27.The payment of a Caregiver Recognition Benefit may be suspended if:

1. the Veteran or the Veteran's designated informal caregiver does not provide the information or documentation requested to allow VAC to assess the Veteran's continued eligibility for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit, or
2. the Veteran fails to undergo an assessment as required under section 65.3 of the [Veterans Well-being Act](#).

28.VAC will notify the Veteran and the Veteran's designated informal caregiver in writing of the reasons for and effective date of the suspension before suspending the payment of the Caregiver Recognition Benefit.

29.A Caregiver Recognition Benefit may be cancelled if:

1. the suspension of the Caregiver Recognition Benefit continues for at least 6 months, or
2. the Veteran's eligibility for the Caregiver Recognition Benefit was based on a misrepresentation or the concealment of a material fact.

30.On the cancellation of the Caregiver Recognition Benefit, VAC will notify the Veteran and the Veteran's designated informal caregiver in writing of the reasons for the cancellation, the effective date of the cancellation and

the Veteran's rights of review.

## Termination of Benefit

- 31.A Caregiver Recognition Benefit is no longer payable if:
1. the Veteran no longer requires ongoing care,
  2. the Veteran permanently relocates to a health care facility,
  3. the Veteran is awarded a pension or compensation under the [Pension Act](#),
  4. the Veteran dies,
  5. the designated informal caregiver no longer plays an essential role in providing or coordinating the ongoing care to the Veteran,
  6. the designated informal caregiver receives remuneration for providing or coordinating the ongoing care to the Veteran, or
  7. the designated informal caregiver dies.

## Benefit Awarded in Error

- 32.An overpayment occurs when a designated informal caregiver receives payment of the Caregiver Recognition Benefit when the caregiver was not entitled to receive the payment.
- 33.Any overpayment, regardless of the cause, is considered a Crown Debt and must be addressed by recovery, remission or write-off in accordance with VAC's [Overpayments – Caregiver Recognition Benefit](#) policy.

## Rights of Review

- 34.Two levels of review are available to a Veteran who is dissatisfied with a decision rendered in respect of the Caregiver Recognition Benefit. See the policy entitled [Review of Part 1, Part 1.1, Part 2 and Part 3.1 Decisions under the Veterans Well-being Act](#) for additional information.

## 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](#)

## Fighting the battle for Canada's Veterans

CMEA

For over 100 years, The War Amps have supported Canada's wounded soldiers. Starting in 1918, Lieutenant Colonel Sidney Lambert, The War Amps first President, himself an amputee after losing a leg during the First World War helped lay the groundwork for this new national association. His goal was to bind together First World War amputees returning home to an uncertain future, and advocate for both them and other seriously disabled veterans. He instilled the belief that, with courage and determination, amputees can succeed in life. [READ MORE](#)

## Mrs. Reine Samson Dawe selected as 2019 Silver Cross Mother

CMEA

The Memorial Cross (more often referred to as the Silver Cross) was first authorized on Dec. 1, 1919 as a memento of personal loss and sacrifice on the part of widows and mothers of Canadian sailors, aviators and soldiers who died for their country during the war. Today, the National Silver Cross Mother is chosen by the Legion among nominations made by Legion Provincial Commands and individuals to represent the mothers of Canada at the National Remembrance Day Ceremony in Ottawa. During her tenure, which starts on the first of November, the National Silver Cross Mother fulfills other official functions. [READ MORE](#)

## Mère nationale de la Croix d'argent 2019 — Mme Reine Samson Dawe

AGMC

La Croix du Souvenir (souvent appelée la Croix d'argent) a été initialement approuvée le 1er décembre 1919. Elle était décernée comme le souvenir de la perte personnelle des mères et des veuves des soldats et marins canadiens morts au champ d'honneur pour leur pays. Aujourd'hui, chaque année, parmi les nominations faites par les directions provinciales de la Légion et des particuliers, la Légion choisit la Mère nationale de la Croix d'argent pour représenter les mères du Canada à la cérémonie du jour du Souvenir qui se tient le 11 novembre, à Ottawa. Son mandat, qui commence le 1er novembre, est d'une durée d'un an, période durant laquelle elle est appelée à accomplir d'autres fonctions officielles. [LIRE PLUS](#)

## Bill Stubbings reflects on his life

Yorkton This Week

Bill Stubbings is a familiar face at the Legion. The well liked veteran, with an easy smile and a mischievous sense of humour, is, you could say, a local legend. Working with General Motors in the golden period of cars, both before and after the Second World War, he is one of Yorkton's last WWII veterans. It is only fitting, then, that with his larger than life personality, plenty of adventures abounded in his remarkable life. [READ MORE](#)

## Gone but never forgotten: 4 Quebecers honoured for service in WWII

CBC News

Richard Cartwright grew up listening to his father play the bugle. "He used to play at every Nov. 11, every funeral for veteran members, friends that would like to have *The Last Post* played. He was always there," Cartwright said. His father, Frederick "George" Cartwright, was one of four Drummondville residents honoured at a ceremony held by Parks Canada this week. It sought to memorialize then men and women — both in the Canadian Armed Forces and civilians — for their service in the First and Second World War. [READ MORE](#)

## Jour du Souvenir: un devoir de mémoire

Le Reffet du Lac

Pour le brigadier-général à la retraite, Pol Bergevin, le jour du Souvenir est une occasion unique de

manifester la gratitude que les Canadiens doivent aux militaires qui ont consenti au sacrifice ultime pour notre liberté. Ces héros ne doivent pas sombrer dans l'oubli, selon ce vétéran de 35 années dans les Forces armées canadiennes. «Nous avons un devoir de mémoire, mais il faut aussi demeurer vigilants, car le Canada peut être appelé à tout moment à participer à des conflits internationaux, prévient-il. Nous n'avons qu'à regarder les actualités pour s'en rendre compte.» [LIRE PLUS](#)

## [From Gander to Winnie: Remembering those animals who served Canada](#)

Times Colonist

While Remembrance Day is intended to remember those members of Canada's armed forces who gave their lives in defending the country, it is also an important moment to reflect on the cost of war and the sacrifices of all those who have served in uniform. Not all of those who served Canada — and in some cases laid down their lives — have been people, however. And while much attention in recent weeks has focused on Conan, the U.S. military dog who helped hunt down the leader of the Islamic State, Canada has its own legacy of animal heroes. [READ MORE](#)

## [Where to pay your respects in Vancouver on Remembrance Day](#)

Vancouver Courier

Pay your respects at a ceremony near you Nov. 11. Note: The city is offering free parking now through Nov. 11 for vehicles displaying B.C. veteran licence plates. The free parking extends to City of Vancouver parking meters, EasyPark parkades, surface lots and park board operated parking facilities, including Stanley Park, Queen Elizabeth Park and the Vancouver Aquatic Centre, as well as all Vancouver community centres. [READ MORE](#)

## [St. Norbert Remembrance Day ceremony marks 10 years](#)

Winnipeg Free Press

Amid the stone monuments and beneath bare tree limbs stretched across a grey sky, Arthur Bloomfield points out the weathered cenotaph in the St. Norbert Parish cemetery, as half a dozen deer graze nearby. Much is still unknown about the stone memorial dedicated to 13 men who perished during the First World War and "la glorieuse mémoire des volontaires de St. Norbert," including who commissioned the cenotaph, and what role the men played in the community before heading overseas more than a century ago. Over the past decade, however, the cenotaph has benefited from renewed prominence in the community, as the once-forgotten memorial has become a site of remembrance for an annual ceremony on Nov. 11, organized by the St. Norbert Veterans Memorial Association and Arthur and Wendy Bloomfield. [READ MORE](#)

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