

## **Veterans Review and Appeal Board – General**

**Description:** Information relating to the former Veterans Appeal Board and Canadian Pension Commission and the Veterans Review and Appeal Board, including historical background, operational functions and responsibilities of the Board. Includes records on liaison with Veterans' organizations, other federal departments and other levels of government; meetings; audits; appointments; statistics; finance; policy development; correspondence; and plans. finance; policy development; correspondence; and plans.

**Document Types:** Briefing Notes; Contracts; Correspondence; Directives; Memoranda; Memoranda of Understanding; Legislation; Plans; Policies; Procedures; Orders in Council; Presentations; Press Releases; Publications; Reports; Surveys; and TB Submissions.

**Record Number:** VRAB 6500 201

## **Disability Pension and Disability Award Appeals and Compassionate Awards**

**Description:** Records relating to the adjudication of reviews of decisions rendered by the Minister and of appeals of decisions rendered by the Veterans Review and Appeal Board under the Pension Act, the Veterans Well-being Act, War Veterans Allowance Act and other Acts of Parliament. This also includes records relating to the adjudication of First applications and reconsiderations for Compassionate Awards under Section 34 of the Veterans Review and Appeal Board Act. Includes records on noteworthy decisions and interpretations.

**Document Types:** Application Forms; Background Papers; Decision Records; Directives; Legal Opinions; Legislation; Policies; and Procedures.

**Record Number:** VRAB 6515 202

## **Reviews, Appeals and Compassionate Awards**

**Description:** This bank describes information on reviews, appeals and reconsiderations made to the Veterans Review and Appeal Board (the Board), for a review or appeal of a previous decision made by the Board, Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC), the former Veterans Appeal Board, Canadian Pension Commission, Pension Review Board, and, War Veterans Allowance Board, including the disposition of these cases. It contains correspondence, notices, case summaries, evidence, audio cassettes and digital recordings, submissions, health information and decisions, all related to the consideration and disposition of reviews, appeals and reconsiderations filed before the Board, and its predecessors as noted above. Personal information may include biographical information such as contact information, date of birth, date of death, gender, information on spouse or common law partner, children, and other dependents, decisions of Veterans Affairs Canada about the individual, personal identifiers (e.g. service number), language, health information, evidence, views and opinions of others about the individual, personal tags, client and claim notes, financial information, ability to obtain

employment, benefits for medical conditions received by another organization or source, signature, representative and power of attorney information and travel expenses.

Note: Some items of information in the bank are subject to solicitor-client privilege.

Information may be stored in electronic systems such as Veterans Review and Appeal Board's Scheduling Application (VSA), the Client Service Delivery Network (CSDN), My VAC Account (MVA), and GCdocs, the Government of Canada's solution to store, manage and provide access to information created by programs. Some documents received in VAC from the Department of National Defence (DND) may contain the Social Insurance Number (SIN) because DND personnel were required to use it as their personal identification number between 1960 and 1990.

**Class of Individuals:** Canadian Armed Forces Members and Veterans, Veterans of World War I, World War II, the Korean War, Members and Veterans of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, survivors, dependents, orphans, medical practitioners, members of Veteran's organizations, including the Royal Canadian Legion, witnesses, family members and other representatives.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this bank is to provide the Board with pertinent information to assist in the disposition of reviews of decisions made by Veterans Affairs Canada, and appeals against review decisions of the Veterans Review and Appeal Board and its predecessors made under the Pension Act, the War Veterans Allowance Act, the Civilian War-related Benefits Act, Flying Accidents Compensation Regulations, Gallantry Gratuities and Annuities Order, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Superannuation Act and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Pension Continuation Act, Veterans Well-being Act, Department of Veterans Affairs Act, Veterans Review and Appeal Board Act, Special Operators War Service Benefits Act, Supervisors War Service Benefits Act, Veterans Benefit Act, Women's Royal Naval Services and the South African Military Nursing Service (Benefits) Act, Aeronautics Act [PART]\*Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 [PART] (pensions for survivors of instructors of British Commonwealth Air Training Plan), Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Halifax Relief Commission Pension Continuation Act, Interpretation Act, National Defence Act [1950] (deserters and absentees), Newfoundland Act [PART], Award Regulations, Veterans Well-being Regulations, Civilian Government Employees (War) Compensation Order, Order Designating Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island as Head Office of the Veterans Review and Appeal Board, Prescribed Persons and Organizations Regulations, Special Duty Area Pension Order, Veterans Allowance Regulations, Veterans Review and Appeal Board Regulations, Ministerial Orders Designating Special Duty Areas, Special Duty Operations, and the Accessible Canada Act

**Consistent Uses:** The information may be used by or disclosed to the Bureau of Pensions Advocates (part of Veterans Affairs Canada), representatives from the Royal Canadian Legion, or a personal representative so that they can better represent applicant's cases at review, appeal and/or reconsideration hearings. Information may also be used and disclosed for planning such as Accessibility Plans, research including surveys, development, and the evaluation of services including in - person and virtual hearings provided by the Board. The use and disclosure is limited to the Board areas that are involved in the evaluation of service and policy.

Biographical information, personal identifiers, health information and reasons for a decision may be shared with Veterans Affairs Canada for purposes of validating identity, calculating and ensuring payments of benefits and for VAC to determine benefits under its programs. The information may be depersonalized and used to support similar claims. The bank's information is also occasionally disclosed to qualified health practitioners for the purpose of obtaining independent medical advice. Decisions of the Board are depersonalized and published on the Canadian Legal Information Institute (CanLII) web site for the information of all Canadians. Published decisions that fall into the following three categories are also available on the Board's web site: Leading and Persuasive Decisions, Interpretation Decisions and Rehear decisions. Digital recordings of review hearings may be used in the investigation of a complaint and/or for performance management purposes.

Retention and Disposal Standards: Personal information will be retained for a minimum of two (2) years after the last administrative action and will follow the disposition standards set out by Library and Archives Canada.

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