

## PART I

Your Committee, therefore, recommends that the following Woods Committee recommendations as modified in some cases by the White Paper and in other cases by the proposals made by the National Veterans Organizations of Canada be implemented.

*Recommendation 1*

That the final determination of interpretation of the Pension Act be vested in the Pension Review Board as proposed in Recommendation 14.

*Recommendation 2*

That the Canadian Pension Commission decide initial interpretations at its discretion. This is now in effect and no further action is required.

*Recommendation 3*

That a Commissioner may request the Pension Review Board to interpret any clause of the Pension Act.

*Recommendation 4*

That the Pension Commission, the Chief Pensions Advocate, or Advocates of a recognized Veterans Organization, may request an interpretation of any provision of the Pension Act by the Pension Review Board.

*Recommendation 5*

That the Pension Commission issue pension law directives, providing interpretations in respect of various sections of the Pension Act.

*Recommendation 6*

That the Pension Commission establish a system of personal hearings to resolve disputes regarding the quantum of pensions under the existing authority of section 7(3) of the Pension Act.

That in connection with these hearings the following principles be followed:

- (a) The responsibility for granting personal hearings remain that of the Commission Chairman;
- (b) That the procedure be as simple as possible, and hearings be held at frequent intervals in all Districts;
- (c) All evidence be taken under oath, and a record be kept;
- (d) Frequent use be made of the authority to conduct these hearings by one Commissioner;
- (e) Where more than one Commissioner forms a body to hear the complaint, the decision be made by a quorum. Where the complaint has been heard by a single Commissioner, the decision be made by the Commission on the basis of a written report.

*Recommendation 7*

That if an applicant is dissatisfied with the decision rendered after a section 7(3) hearing he has the right to appeal to the Pension Review Board.

*Recommendation 8*

That the Commission publish a directive governing personal hearings in matters of quantum.