

Access to records.

"55. (1) The pensions advocates and commission counsel shall have free access to all the records of the Department and to all material considered by the Commission in disposing of any application.

Contents deemed confidential.

(2) No such records or material relating to any member of the forces, pensioner or applicant for pension, shall be inspected by, nor shall their contents be communicated by anyone in the public service to, any person other than

(a) the member of the forces, pensioner or applicant for pension concerned, 10

(b) such public servants as may require to inspect them or have their contents communicated to them in order that they may properly discharge their duties,

(c) such medical advisers and other persons, including representatives of soldiers' service organizations, as may be consulted by or on behalf of a commission counsel or by or on behalf of the person whom the records or material directly concern, and 15

(d) such person as may be employed by such last mentioned person to present a claim on his behalf before the Pension Tribunal or the Pension Appeal Court. 20

Pension Tribunal.

"56. The Pension Tribunal shall be charged with the duty of hearing and disposing of all applications under this Act which may be brought before it as hereinbefore provided. 25

Hearings.

"57. For the purpose of hearing applications the Pension Tribunal shall sit at convenient places throughout Canada; the selection of such places, the determination of the days for the sittings at each thereof, and the assignment of members of the tribunal to attend thereon, shall be in the discretion of the chairman subject to such rules of procedure as may be adopted as hereinbefore provided. 30

Quorum.

"58. (1) Two members of the Pension Tribunal sitting together shall form a quorum for the purpose of hearing and disposing of any application as to the disposition of which they are in agreement; any application as to the disposition of which there has been an equal division of opinion shall be reheard before an uneven number of members exceeding by at least one the number of members who took part in the first hearing. 40

Disagreement.

(2) With the consent of all parties entitled to be heard upon any application, any application may be heard and disposed of by one member of the tribunal, who shall constitute a quorum of the tribunal for the purpose of such application. 45

Hearing by one member by consent.