



Editor's Notes

PUBLIC SERVICE PENSION REFORM – Examining the possible implications for the RCMP.

Significant developments in recent years have prompted the federal government to take steps to strengthen the pension arrangements for persons employed in the federal Public Service. As announced in the 1998 Federal Budget, Treasury Board Secretariat and the Public Service unions are currently discussing a number of items relating to the *Public Service Superannuation Act*, including funding and financing issues and the joint administration of the Public Service pension plan.

An RCMP Pension Renewal Task Force has been put in place to closely monitor developments in the Public Service and to review their impact on RCMP pension arrangements. The pension reform process is expected to take several years to complete. Members can be assured that there will be no adverse effects on pension benefits earned to date. A communication plan is being developed so that serving and retired members will be provided with information on an ongoing basis.

PILOT PROJECT The RCMP has been invited to participate in a Standing Offer and Call-up Authority (SOA) initiated by DND for the purchase and repair of glasses. There are two locations identified in the Ottawa area at the present time. One is at NDMC, the other at 229 Rideau (at Cumberland), the dispensing optician is Hakim.

RMs, CMs, and retired members are entitled to the prices listed in the contract and to a choice of 100 different styles of frames. CMs and retired members will be responsible for paying for their glasses, the usual billing process will be in place for RMs. There is a potential for saving a significant amount of money by using these facilities. Any surplus identified could be redirected to front line requirements and this would be another way to assist in decreasing costs.

If the project shows significant savings we will be able to proceed to expand the service to areas in Ontario and Quebec. Also consideration might be given to making the service available to family members. **For further information please contact the Medical Office in Ottawa, at (613) 993-0797 or Bonnie Varey at (613) 993-8409.**

PARTNERSHIP TO PROMOTE COACHING AND PREVENT ABUSE

Helping to fight abuse in sport and building stronger relationships with young athletes — these are just two of the key goals of a new partnership between the RCMP, 3M Canada and the Coaching Association of Canada in support of a coaching certification program that has already provided vital training to more than 700,000 Canadian coaches.

The 3M National Coaching Certification Program (3M NCCP) has a 25-year-old track record of success and has served as a model for coaching programs in several other countries. By throwing its support behind the program, the RCMP has found what it calls “a natural fit.” In supporting the partnership, the RCMP will focus its efforts on:

- ✓ building healthier communities, families, and individuals through positive participation in organized sport;
- ✓ raising awareness of abuse issues and, through education, helping to prevent it from happening;
- ✓ creating opportunities to publicize the 3M NCCP; and,
- ✓ recognizing RCMP employees who have been contributing to their communities through coaching.

There is no cost to the RCMP and any involvement by officers and civilian employees is voluntary. For more information, please contact:

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