From: Jim Hutton jim.hutton@me.com

Subject: A Public Service Article for the Courier News

Date: November 17, 2024 at 1:03:08 PM

To: manager@couriernews.ca



Veterans with Cancer Inc. Advocacy & Awareness

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Editor of the Courier News

November 17, 2024

Dear Editor,

Please find attached a brief public service article, in both official languages, aimed at encouraging veterans who have cancer to reflect on the chemicals they were exposed to while on active service since these may have caused their cancer. Cancers caused by exposure to carcinogens don't appear until many years after the exposure. Therefore many veterans don't associate their cancer with their time in uniform. As a result, they miss out on benefits that are provided by Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC).

We request, on behalf of all veterans, that you publish the attached article in an effort to make your readers aware that that cancers can be a result of exposure during service and that any veteran with cancer should apply to VAC for benefits.

In this regard, there have been significant changes at VAC over the past year that more readily recognized cancer as result of exposure to environmental hazards such as Afghanistan 'Burn Pits'. These changes are reflected in the fact that there have been three veterans awarded benefits for their cancers just in the last few months.

Sincerely,

James P. Hutton, rmc, CD, BSc, MSc, MBA

Commander (retired)

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