



393 Third Street West  
Owen Sound, ON N4K 7A2

President

Naval Association of Canada – Calgary Branch  
820 24 Street SW  
Calgary, Alberta T2T 0G6

October 28, 2024

Dear Mr. White,

The purpose of this letter is to ask you to reach out to all of your members and advise them that if they have cancer, it could be related to their service.

Veterans with Cancer is a registered not-for-profit established with the dual mission of advocating on behalf of veterans with cancer and spreading awareness that many veterans' cancers are the result of exposure to carcinogenic chemicals that they were exposed to while in uniform.

Veterans with cancer, who served in the 1960s and 1970s, are now in their seventies and eighties. Some of our members have cancers that have metastasized and they are terminally ill. Some veterans have already died from a cancer that was the result of their exposure to chemicals during service. Time is not on our side.

When Veterans were exposed to hazardous chemicals, that we now know to be carcinogenic, they were immediately injured at that time – no different than if they fell from a ladder and permanently injured their back. However, the difference is that the injury from chemical exposure does not become apparent until many years later – it's a delayed injury. As a result, many veterans overlook the possibility that their cancer could be service-related. This denies veterans the benefits available through Veterans Affairs Canada. I therefore ask that you assist us with our Awareness Program by informing your members that if they have cancer, they should consider whether or not they were exposed to carcinogens during their careers.

Additional information on our awareness initiatives and the progress we are making in advocating for change, aimed at leveling the playing field for veterans with cancer, can be found on our website.

Sincerely,

Commander (ret'd) James P. Hutton CD, BSc, MSc, MBA  
Director, Veterans with Cancer Inc.

Attachments: (2)