

## Benefits For HIV+ Persons If You Are On M.S.S. (Welfare)

(1)- Disability - You will be Classified for Disability Status from either Unemployable or Regular (Single). This is an added \$140, more or less. Just ask your F.A.W. for a Disability Form to fill out, take this to your G.P. (doctor), have him fill it out. Take it back to your F.A.W. If you have any problems with this, see the B.C.P.W.A. Advocacy Department and/or P.W.N. Advocacy.

(2)- Year Round Go Everywhere B.C. Transit Pass - This Pass is terrific, it allows you to go anywhere, anytime that B.C. Transit goes. To receive this, ask your M.S.S. office for a "Disability Bus Pass Form", Fill it out take the form to A.I.D.S. Vancouver and let A.I.D.S. Vancouver take care of the rest. The wait for this is around Five weeks, but worth it.

(3)- High Protein Supplement - M.S.S. (Health Ministry) Food Supplement which is an added \$40 to your Support Check. To receive this, you have to see your doctor (GP or I.D.C. Clinic), ask for them to write out a prescription form stating that you are in need of a "High Protein Supplement" for malnourishment due HIV+ disease.

(4)- Ensure Plus Food Supplement - A definite must if you are suffering from loss of weight, **please only access if you have serious weight loss.** To receive this benefit, you must first see your doctor (GP or Clinic Doctor) ask them to fill out another Prescription form stating that you are undernourished and in need of 3 or 4 cans of ensure per day. Then phone St. Pauls I.D.C. Clinic for an appointment to see the Nutritionist, this will take about five to six weeks. She will then fill out the proper form and Fax it to your M.S.S. office. Two weeks later, a courier service will deliver 8 cases of this product to your home every month. Davis Medical handles this part of it.

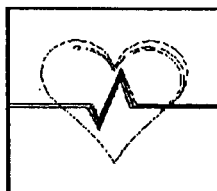
(5)- B.C.P.W.A. Complementary Health Fund - Allows you to get \$100 of vitamins or other health things such as massages, acupuncture, and other treatment needs. See B.C.P.W.A. Support Staff for more information concerning this.

(6)- Your own Canadian Springs Five Gallon Water Cooler - You need this to protect you from that nasty little critter called "Cryptosporidium", ask B.C.P.W.A. Support Staff about this.

Have I left anything out? Please contact me if you can add to this list, but keep this in mind, it's your Body & Mind...Keep It Healthy, Its Your Right to these Benefits, take advantage of them, no one will do it for you.

B.C.P.W.A.=British Columbia Persons with AIDS Society; P.W.N.=Positive Womens Network;  
A.I.D.S. Vancouver - All Are At: 1107-Seymour St., Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5S8  
Phone: 682-2122 (Pacific Aids Resource Centre)

### HIV/AIDS and the I.V. Drug User



#### **PERMAFROST HIV AIDS ADVOCACY**

Roland J. Koch  
611-129 East Cordova Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6A 1K7.  
Phone #669-1248

**"Between a Rock and a Hard Place"**