

## General information

For information and assistance please contact one of our advocates at the numbers listed on the back panel.

Remember, we also have specially designed CPP application guides and appeal kits. And, if you belong to an advocacy group, call us to get information on workshops we provide on CPP disability benefits policies and procedures.

**We work with people one-to-one, as well as providing CPP workshops to interested advocacy groups.**

Our CPP Advocacy office hours are Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Advocacy Access is a program of  
**B.C. Coalition of People  
with Disabilities**

Funded by  
**The Law Foundation of British Columbia**

**City of Vancouver**

**Ministry of Human Resources**

**Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch**

For more information, contact us at:

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# Disability Fact Sheet

Canada Pension Plan  
Advocacy Program



AN ADVOCACY ACCESS PUBLICATION

A PROGRAM OF  
**BC COALITION OF  
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

# Disability Fact Sheet

## CPP ADVOCACY PROGRAM

The BC Coalition of People with Disabilities (BCCPD) Advocacy Access Program has been helping people with disabilities to access income security programs since 1989.

In 1995, Advocacy Access established the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) Disability Benefits Advocacy Program. Since then, the program advocates have provided individualized service to people with their CPP disability benefits applications, appeals and tribunals.

## What is CPP?

The CPP disability benefits program provides a monthly benefit to people who are no longer able to work because of disability. It is not a retirement pension. To receive disability benefits from CPP, people must have contributed to the Plan through their employment.

As with any government program, CPP has specific eligibility requirements and restrictions. Many people find the disability application process difficult. An advocate's experience can make the process easier and less stressful.

## Why CPP?

- Unlike provincial disability benefits, CPP is not income tested, and there is no limit to the personal assets you can have
- If you move to another province, or country, your CPP benefits will go with you
- Unlike provincial disability benefits, you will keep your CPP disability benefits if you become involved in a "dependent" relationship e.g. if you get married
- You can attend school or perform volunteer work without jeopardizing your CPP disability benefits
- If you are receiving provincial disability benefits, you may not lose your medical coverage or other provincial benefits when you qualify for CPP
- Depending on the amount of income you receive from CPP, you may be eligible for a top-up from the province
- CPP is taxable; however, you can apply for the Disability Tax Credit from Canada Customs and Revenue Agency

## Our CPP advocates can help you to:

- Understand CPP disability benefits eligibility requirements
- Complete the CPP disability benefits application form
- Access necessary information from your physician and other health professionals
- Communicate effectively with Human Resources Development Canada, Revenue Canada, and any other relevant government offices
- Appeal rejected applications
- Organize and present your case at a Review Tribunal
- Organize and present your case to the Pension Appeals Board
- Learn more through our CPP brochures and appeal kit

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**Our advocates will help people with their CPP disability benefits applications, appeals and tribunals.**