

WEST KOOTENAY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

420 MILL STREET, NELSON, B.C. V1L 4R9 (250) 352-3177 • FAX: (250) 352-7100

Copy

November 19, 1996

Dear Mr. Paul Martin,

Living in poverty is a reality for many women in Canada. Some women are even further disadvantaged trying to live within the confines of a system which does not recognize their individual circumstances.

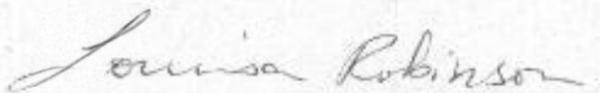
For example, a 59 year old woman living on CPP disability benefits receives the ridiculous amount of just under \$7,000 per year to live on. This woman is obviously living well below the poverty line yet incredibly she is still required to pay income tax of \$124.00 ! This is totally unacceptable.

She is not eligible for any of the income tax exemptions, deductions, subsidies, or benefits that are available for women of a slightly different age bracket, on income assistance, or those classified (for income tax purposes) as handicapped or disabled living on CPP disability benefits.

She is just one example of a woman who falls in between the cracks in the systems. We do not feel this woman should be penalized for her inability to fit into a faulty system.

We urge you to address the issue of unjust taxation for those living on CPP disability benefits and await your reply.

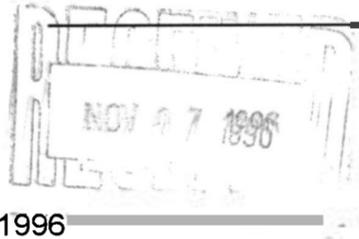
Sincerely,



Louisa Robinson
Chairperson
West Kootenay Women's Association



Vernon and District Women's Centre Society
P.O. Box 1242, Vernon, B.C., V1T 6N6
Phone 542-7531 Fax 545-6406



October 10, 1996

West Kootenay Women's Association
420 Mill Street
Nelson, B.C.
V1L 4R9

Greetings

I have been asked to write a letter, regarding income tax and CPP disability benefits, to members of both the federal and provincial governments. I am requesting your support by sending similar letters.

I have enclosed a copy of our letter for your information. If you wish to respond, please do so.

Any questions, comments, give me a call.

In Sisterhood,

Kim Tregaskis

KT/kar

c.c.

Mr. Paul Martin
Minister of Finance
Room 515 - S, Centre Block
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Honourable David Dingwall
Minister of Health
Room 607, Confederation Building
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6



Vernon and District Women's Centre Society
P.O. Box 1242, Vernon, B.C., V1T 6N6
Phone 542-7531 Fax 545-6406

November 4, 1996

As you are well aware, poverty among women is a huge concern in this country. I would like to draw to your attention the problems faced by women receiving CPP disability benefits.

A specific example is a woman aged 59 years old. Last year she received CPP disability benefits of \$583.00/month or \$6,996.00 per annum. Despite this outrageously low income this woman paid \$124.00 in income taxes.

Like others, this woman falls between the cracks.

1. She is not old enough to receive the benefits, subsidies and discounts enjoyed by those more senior, although many of them have a much larger income.
2. She does not have the advantage of medical coverage and access to additional benefits as do those in receipt of income assistance. People living on similar incomes from social services do not pay income tax.
3. Like a large portion of people to receive CPP disability pensions, this woman does not meet the criteria to be classified disabled or handicapped for the purposes of income tax. Therefore, she does not receive the benefit of income tax deductions.

Although we support the benefits received by these other groups, it is unfair that people so obviously disadvantaged must pay income taxes. This woman's \$7,000.00 annual income is well below the poverty line.

Please address this issue and re-assess the taxation paid on CPP disability benefits.

Sincerely,

Kim Tregaskis
Community Advocate

KT/kar

c/c: Mr. Paul Martin - Minister of Finance

WEST KOOTENAY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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November 19, 1996

Honourable David Dingwall,

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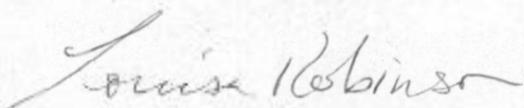
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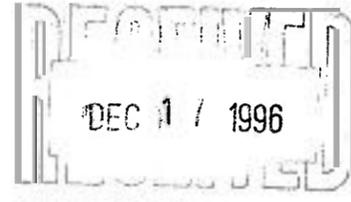
Sincerely,



Louisa Robinson
Chairperson
West Kootenay Women's Association



Health Sante
Canada Canada



19 XII 1996

Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence

Ms. Louisa Robinson **FYI**
Chairperson
West Kootenay Women's Association
420 Mill Street
Nelson, British Columbia
V1L 4R9

Dear Ms. Robinson:

Thank you for your letter of November 19, 1996, addressed to the Honourable David C. Dingwall, regarding the taxation of Canada Pension Plan disability benefits.

Since this matter falls under the jurisdiction of the Honourable Paul Martin, Minister of Finance, I have taken the liberty of forwarding your correspondence to him for his information and consideration. I hope this action meets with your approval.

Yours sincerely,

Pam Carson
Chief
Executive Correspondence
Section

c.c.: The Honourable Paul Martin, P.C., M.P.

Canada