

Paula Kusack

Subject: FW: Minister Simons: Permanent increase to assistance rates

From: Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX <SDPR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: March 16, 2021 3:18 PM

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Ref: 212163

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding income and disability assistance rates to Social Development and Poverty Reduction Minister Nicholas Simons.

We are pleased to let you know that the Minister has just announced a permanent increase to Income and Disability Assistance rates by \$175 per month. This is the largest permanent increase in British Columbia history, and the third increase since July 2017. The three permanent increases since 2017 total \$325 per month.

As well, we are increasing the BC Senior's Supplement by \$50 per month, which will double the maximum amount and will directly benefit about 80,000 eligible low-income seniors. This is the first increase since 1987.

No action is required by ministry clients. People receiving income and disability assistance will see the increased amount on their April 21st payments. People eligible for the BC Senior's Supplement will automatically see the increase on their April 28th payments.

Our news release is available online [here](#).

Best wishes,
Office of the Minister
Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction