

High Commission of Canada



Haut-commissariat du Canada

Canada House, Trafalgar Square, London SW1Y 5BJ, United Kingdom

11 JUL 2022

Mr. Ian Andexser
Chairman, Canadian Alliance of British Pensioners
202 – 4800 Dundas Street West
Toronto, ON
Canada M9A 1B1
(by email)

Dear Mr. Andexser:

Thank you for your email dated 23 May and for sharing Rachel Blaney MP's letter to Minister Ng. I commend your continued advocacy efforts on behalf of British pensioners living in Canada.

I understand that non-indexed UK State Pensions are of great concern to many UK pensioners living in Canada. The Government of Canada supports your concerns and believes that pensioners should be treated equally and receive the benefits to which they are entitled, regardless of where they live.

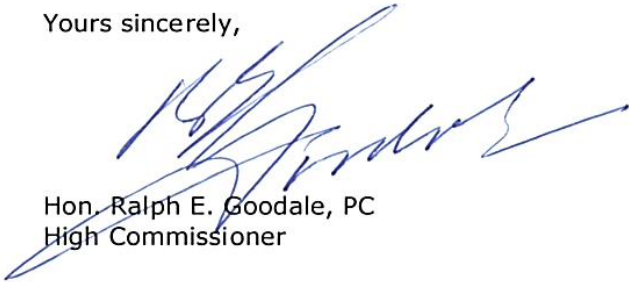
The Government of Canada will continue to raise the issue of non-indexation of UK pensions with the UK Government. You may be aware that Minister for Seniors, Kamal Khera has recently written to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Thérèse Coffey to reiterate the Canadian Government's request to negotiate a comprehensive social security agreement that would provide for the payment of indexed benefits. Assistant Deputy Minister Alexis Conrad from Employment and Social Development Canada also recently spoke at a UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Frozen Pensions meeting.

Canada and the UK are currently negotiating a bilateral free trade agreement. Both countries have committed to a comprehensive and ambitious free trade agreement that is tailored to our bilateral interests. Canada's focus is on negotiating a high-standard and comprehensive free trade agreement with the U.K. that covers trade related issues such as market access for goods and services, as well as inclusive trade priorities. A trade agreement is therefore not the appropriate mechanism for advancing the issue of pension indexation by the British government.

Canada¹³¹

Thank you for writing to me on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,



Hon. Ralph E. Goodale, PC
High Commissioner

PS Given the tumult &
turbulence currently affecting
British politics, this would be
a timely moment for your
organization to be in touch with
all UK Members of Parliament
to press your case! 