



CANADA

NOVEMBER 10th.

Last Day for Reporting for Service or Claiming Exemption.



Only one week remains for the men in Class One to respond to the call under the Military Service Act. In order that every man may fully understand and fulfil his obligations, the following questions and answers are given.

Who is in Class One ?

All Male British subjects, ordinarily or at any time since the 4th day of August, 1914, resident in Canada, who had on the 13th October 1917, attained the age of 20 years, who were born not earlier than the year 1883, and were on the 6th day of July, 1917, unmarried, or are widowers, but have no child, etc..

Exceptions.

- "1. Members of our regular, or reserve, or auxiliary force, as defined by our Army Act.
- "2. Members of our Military forces raised by the Governments of any of our other dominions or by our Government of India.
- "3. Men serving in our Royal Navy, or in our Royal Marines, or in Naval Service of Canada, and members of our Canadian Expeditionary Force.
- "4. Men who have since August 4th, 1914, served in our Military or Naval Forces, or in those of our allies, in any theatre of actual war, and have been honourably discharged therefrom.
- "5. Clergy, including members of any recognized order of an exclusively religious character, and ministers of all religious denominations existing in Canada at the date of the passing of our said Military Service Act.
- "6. Those persons exempted from military service by Order in Council of August 13th, 1873, and by Order in Council of December 6th, 1898."

How should Report for Service be made ?

Men who do not desire to claim exemption will report for service either by mail or in person. Forms of report will be found in all post offices, and will be transmitted free of postage.

What is the next step ?

The man who has reported for service will be advised by Registered Letter as to anything thereafter required of him. He will not be

What is the last day for reporting for service or claiming Exemption ?

NOVEMBER 10th, 1917.

Issued by The Military Service Council.

MILITARY SERVICE ACT

November 1917

During the month of November 1917, the Fort William and Port Arthur Exemption Tribunals began the duty of determining if claimants would be excused from military service. Early in the month, both local newspapers began printing advertisements from the Military Service Council stating the deadline for men, categorized as Class One, to register under the Military Service Act was fast approaching. With the deadline of November 10th, the council made it clear that men who did not register before this date would be classified as deserters and could potentially face prison sentences upwards of five years.

On the last day of registration, a total 636 men registered in Port Arthur. Of the 636, 538 men claimed exemption and 98 registered for active service. In Fort William, 827 men registered and 214 men (nearly 30%) reported for active service while 613 claimed exemption. Local police departments, under the direction of the Department of Justice began actively seeking people who had not registered. Days after the cut-off date, the Port Arthur Police Department made their first arrest in which the man was ultimately sentenced to two years in prison at Stoney Mountain Penitentiary. Others, who did not register by November 10th, began surrendering themselves to the police and then later to Major H.A. Ruttan at the Port Arthur Armoury.

Soon after, the Fort William and Port Arthur Exemption Tribunals began the process of deciding whether claimants would be granted exemption status. Three tribunals would operate in Port Arthur at the Court House, the Board of Trade office in the Whalen Building and the Police Court. The City of Fort William would utilize the Police Court Room, the Committee Room at the Court House, the Mayor's Office at City Hall and the Divisional Court Room at the Court House.

Throughout the month, the Fort William Daily Times Journal and the Port Arthur Chronicle printed the names of each claimant from each day's session and the decisions rendered by the local tribunals. Nearing the end of November, the tribunals finished a majority of their duties with only a small number of cases, for a variety of reasons, being postponed until early December.

Fort William Daily Times Journal November 3 1917 ; November 5, 1917
Port Arthur News Chronicle November 1, 1917 ; November 3, 1917

TRIBUNALS TO
OPEN SESSIONS
THURSDAY NEXT



CANADA

EXEMPTION TRIBUNALS

MILITARY SERVICE ACT 1917

For the Attention of Class One Men

The location of The Exemption Tribunals in this district is as follows:—

Tribunals Ont. No. 337	Police Court Room, Court House, Fort William.
Ont. No. 338	Committee Room, Court House, Fort William.
Ont. No. 339	Mayor's Office, City Hall, Fort William.
Ont. No. 340	Division Court Room, Court House, Fort William.
Ont. No. 334	Court House, Port Arthur.
Ont. No. 335	Board of Trade, Whalen Building, Port Arthur.
Ont. No. 336	Police Court, Port Arthur.
Ont. No. 8	Grant.
Ont. No. 343	Schreiber.

These Tribunals will commence to deal with claims for exemption on November 8th.

All claims for exemption must be made not later than November 10th.

Those who make or have made their claim for exemption in writing through the Post Office will receive notice by registered letter of date on which their claim will be dealt with.

Those who neglect to make use of the Post Office must present themselves in person at a Tribunal on November 8th, 9th or 10th, and they will then be informed as to when their claims will be dealt with.

Reports for service must be made on or before November 10th through the Post Office.

Severe penalties are provided by law for failure to report for service or claim exemption as above.

Issued by
The Military Service Council.

MUST REGISTER OR
RANK AS DESERTER