

## November 26, 2021

You are receiving this newsletter to help keep you updated on issues and BCNU initiatives that may be important to you in your retirement.

## Pension Review Committee Recommends Distinct Nurses Group within Plan

The Pension Review Committee (PRC) was established to ensure a pension plan structure is in place to give nurses a voice in any future changes to their pension plan.

The PRC has now completed its review of three options:

- 1. Creation of a separate Nurses Pension Plan,
- 2. Creation of a distinct group within the Municipal Pension Plan (MPP), and
- 3. To remain status quo within the MPP.

PRC announced on Oct. 6 it reached a joint agreement on a recommendation to the MPP Partners to consider creating a distinct group within the Plan. This recommendation is a significant step to achieving a separate group for nurses. Plan Partners must confirm that forming a separate group for nurses will not adversely impact other members of the plan. There must also be a review to determine what changes may be necessary to support a new group.

Once the parties have completed this work, BCNU will ask members, including retired members, to make the final decision through a vote on whether to maintain status quo as members of the MPP or to begin forming a separate group within the MPP. More details will be provided prior to the vote.

For more information, please contact BCNU Executive Councillor Michelle Sordal at michellesordal@bcnu.org.

## Speak Up and Speak Out to Support BC Nurses

Nurses are facing a critical shortage and a lack of support in BC. Many are struggling to provide the safe patient care that every British Columbian deserves. The provincial government needs to know that now is the time to act on this critical situation.

BCNU has been encouraging the public to visit our website to email their MLA on behalf of nurses and patients.

Retired members are also encouraged to call on their MLA for urgent action. Please visit <a href="www.bcnu.org/speakup">www.bcnu.org/speakup</a> now to send your MLA an email and let your voice be heard in support of working nurses. A copy of your email will be sent to the Premier, Minister of Health, Leader of the Official Opposition, and the Official Opposition Critic for Health.

## **COVID-19: Booster Shots for BC Seniors**

On Oct. 26, the BC government announced everyone in BC will be offered a COVID-19 booster shot to increase protection against infection that may have waned since the initial series of vaccines. Seniors 70+ in BC will be invited to book a booster appointment by risk level, age group (oldest to youngest based on year of birth) and the date of your second dose.

To be invited, you must be registered with BC's Get Vaccinated provincial registration system. You can register with your Personal Health Number (PHN) at this website or by phone at 1-833-838-2323.

For more information on booster shots for British Columbians, please visit BC's Get your booster dose website.

If you know another retired member who did not yet receive this email, please forward this to let them know they can update their information with BCNU and be added to this mailing list by contacting Membership@bcnu.org.

Questions or suggestions? Reply to this email with your feedback for future eNewsletters.

For more information, please visit the <u>retired nurses</u> page on the BCNU website.

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