

November 29, 2022

You are receiving this newsletter to update you on issues and BCNU initiatives you may find important in retirement.

Nurses' Pension to Remain with the MPP

The Nurses' Bargaining Association (NBA) pension review committee was established as part of Appendix K of the 2019-2022 NBA provincial collective agreement, to determine the viability of a new pension governance model.

The pension review process included consideration of extensive expert research and analysis. Throughout this process, protecting the integrity of nurses' pensions has remained one of the highest priorities for BCNU. Considering the MPP's strong investment performance and stable governance model, having the NBA nurse pension remain within the MPP as-is, without any changes, affords the most protection and long-term assurance to members

To read more details on the entire review process such as the options reviewed, recommendations made, and how the outcome was reached and received, please read the full bulletin published here on the BCNU website.

Pension Questions? Attend the BCNU Member Virtual Town Hall

BCNU will be hosting a virtual town hall to hear directly from retired and working members on Tuesday, Dec. 13 from 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. PST. Retired members covered by the NBA provincial collective agreement are encouraged to attend to bring forward questions to BCNU leadership.

Register here

You must have a free Zoom account to register and attend. Create a Zoom account here.

This session will be recorded to allow BCNU to gather questions and ensure members' needs are being met with respect to pension planning.

Retiree Benefit Program: \$500 One-Time Payment for Eligible Retirees

The Retiree Benefit Program (RBP) committee has been responsible for the administration of funds contributed to the Retiree Benefit Program Fund in accordance with a provision in the collective agreement negotiated by the Nurses' Bargaining Association in 2006. Between 2009 and 2019, members enrolled in the RBP had been receiving a monthly subsidy covering 50 percent of their Medical Service Plan (MSP) premiums. In January 2020, the BC government eliminated MSP premiums.

In the fall of 2022, the NBA pension governance review process concluded with no change to the existing pension arrangement for NBA members.

The RBP Committee met on Nov. 8 and passed the following motion: that the NBA RBP Committee will commence and prioritize a RBP Plan Design Review Project, which will consider funding and benefit issues and options for the future use of the RBP Fund.

In consideration of the length of time needed for the review, the RBP Committee has passed a motion for a one-time payment of \$500.00 CAD to be made to eligible retirees who retired on or before Dec. 31, 2022.

For those already enrolled in the RBP, payments will begin by direct deposit on Dec. 5. If you have retired but have not yet enrolled in the program, please visit <u>BCNU.org/RBP</u> to access the application form.

Members who retire on or after Jan. 1, 2023 are encouraged to enroll to receive future benefits as determined by the RBP Committee.

Visit <u>BCNU.org/RBP</u> to learn more about the one-time payment, review the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) resource, and access the RBP application form.

Please share this RBP payment information with your fellow retired nurses in order to help provide as many eligible retirees as possible with the opportunity to receive this benefit.

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 emails.

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

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