

your PENSION NEWS

A newsletter for Public Service Superannuation Plan Active Members

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING PURCHASES OF PRIOR SERVICE

Beginning on April 1, 2019, the following changes will be implemented to the Public Service Superannuation Plan (Plan or PSSP):

You may now be able to purchase more prior part-time service

- Purchases of part-time service have been permitted for approved leaves of absence. These continue to be available; and may now be for periods of service of as little as 10 consecutive business days.
- Purchases will now be permitted for periods of part-time service where contributions have not been made, e.g. casual service. These will be available for purchase for periods of service of four (4) months, or greater.

The existing purchase of service limits still apply:

- If you purchase service within 10 years from the end date of the period of service, you must pay the employee contributions plus interest. The employer for whom you worked during the period of service in question, will be required to pay the employer matching contributions.

Within 10 years from the end date of the period of service, you and your employer both pay matching contributions



- If you decide to purchase service that is greater than 10 years and not more than 20 years, from the end date of the period of service, you will have to pay 100% of the actuarial cost of the prior service.

Within 20 years, and greater than 10 years, from the end date of the period of service, you will have to pay 100% of the cost of the prior service.



- You are not able to purchase any period of service having an end date greater than 20 years old. The 20 year limit applies to all forms of purchases, including outside service and repayments of a refund. For repayments of a refund, the limit is 20 years from the date the refund was paid out.

Change to the purchase of contributory service with a public authority

A period of full-time service being purchased with a public authority must now be at least four (4) consecutive months. Prior service with a public authority, for periods of part-time service, may now be eligible for purchase.

If you would like to purchase prior service, you and/or your employer must provide us with the necessary salary information and periods of time that you wish to purchase. If we do not receive this information, we may be unable to estimate or complete the requested purchase.



Did you know?

Long term disability benefits

Plan members on LTD should notify their employer and LTD provider of any changes in personal information, such as name or address changes. This is important to ensure your records remain up-to-date.



Purchases of Service can only be payable by a single lump sum payment effective any purchase initiated April 1, 2019 or later.



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Stay informed on the Plan's latest news and to receive information on retirement planning.



**My Retirement Plan
website**

nspensions.hroffice.com

Log on to the My Retirement Plan website to:

- View your Member Statement
- Use the Pension Projection Tool to obtain an estimate; and
- View helpful retirement planning resources.

The PSSP grows again with the addition of Cape Breton Regional Municipality

Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM) transferred its defined benefit pension plan into the PSSP on February 1, 2018. This transfer resulted in 1157 new members, including 724 active members, being welcomed to the PSSP.

The CBRM transaction is the largest pension plan transfer to be completed under the *Municipal and Other Authorities Pension Plan Transfer Act* to date.

Growing the membership to promote long-term financial sustainability is a key strategic focus for Public Service Superannuation Plan Trustee Inc. (PSSPTI). Since they began this membership growth initiative in 2015, the PSSP membership has been expanded by almost 1600 active members and 700 retirees. The list of plans that have joined or transferred into the PSSP includes: the Sherbrooke Village Restoration Commission; South Shore Public Libraries; Cape Breton University; Acadia University; Université Sainte-Anne; University of King's College; Halifax Harbour Bridges; Village of Bible Hill; and the Municipality of the County of Pictou.

PSSPTI continues to pursue growth opportunities and is in discussions with several public sector employers.

2017-2018 PSSP Annual Report Highlights

The 2017-2018 PSSP Annual Report was published on June 28, 2018. The Annual Report provides you with information on the PSSP's investment results and interesting statistics. You can view the full Report online at:

www.nspssp.ca/publicservice/about/plan-performance

Plan Performance: (As at March 31, 2018)

103.4% Funded Ratio:

The Plan was 103.4 per cent funded on a market value basis.

5.77% Investment Return:

The Plan achieved a one year return of 5.77%, gross of investment management fees (5.54% net of investment management fees). The Fund's policy benchmark return for the fiscal year was 5.69%.

Net Assets Available for Benefits were **\$6.4 billion**
This is an increase of \$400 million from the previous year.

Membership Facts: (As at December 31, 2017)

47.8 Average age of an active member

70.0 Average age of a retired member


15 Pensioners over 100 years of age


794 New retirees. This figure reflects only the number of members who retired in 2017.


\$20,795 Average annual lifetime pension (retired member)


1.06 The Plan has 1.06 active members for every 1 retiree. The higher the ratio of active members to retirees, the healthier a pension plan is.


We appreciate your feedback. If you have a comment or a suggested topic, please contact:


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All information presented in this document is premised on the Plan rules and criteria which currently exist under the Public Service Superannuation Act (the "PSSA") and the plan text made thereunder. This document explains in plain language aspects of the rules and criteria of the Plan. Plan members, beneficiaries, and others who wish to determine their legal rights and obligations under the Plan should refer to the PSSA, the plan text, or other legal documents as appropriate. In the event of a discrepancy between the information provided in this document and the legislation and/or legal documents, the latter takes precedence.