

CSSB *Connection*

The Civil Service Superannuation Fund

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Important Message If Planning To Retire After 2015

Under proposed amendments to The Civil Service Superannuation Act, Old Age Security Integration would not be available for a retirement date after 2015, and new application deadlines would apply for forms submitted after 2015.

These changes were introduced in the legislature on May 27, 2015, but had not been passed when the House recessed in June. The House is not scheduled to reconvene until October 20, 2015.

Whether the changes will be passed, or when, is up to the legislature and we have no indication if or when that might happen.

Old Age Security Integration Changes For 2016

Integration with Old Age Security (OAS) is an option which lets a member get a higher pension from the Superannuation plan until age 65, but less after age 65.

The Federal Government changed OAS to gradually increase the eligibility age from 65 to 67. The Income Tax Act has not been changed to allow pension plans to reflect this. OAS integration was intended to level income through retirement, which can no longer be done for anyone who was born after March 1958.

OAS integration is therefore not expected to be available for a retirement date after 2015. If this change is passed, an election of OAS integration would be invalid for a retirement date after 2015.

This change would not impact pensions for retirement dates prior to January 1, 2016.

Integration with the Canada Pension Plan will continue to be offered.

Pension Application Deadlines Simplified

Under proposed changes to The Civil Service Superannuation Act, retiring members would be required to submit a NOTICE OF RETIREMENT and any pension option forms prior to their retirement date. A NOTICE OF RETIREMENT is not required for a disability pension or where an employee works past November 30th of the year he or she turns age 71.

No pension would be payable for a period prior to the date the Board receives a member's NOTICE OF RETIREMENT. If valid pension option forms and waiver forms (if applicable) are not submitted by the date of retirement, default options would apply.

Currently, some limited extensions to these deadlines are available in certain circumstances. It is anticipated that these extensions would no longer apply after 2015.

Pension Application Deadlines Simplified (cont'd)

We strongly recommend that retiring members with internet access use the "Complete Online Retirement Forms" through the CSSB's Online Services to help avoid possible problems.

Additional information on monthly pension options and deadlines is provided with pension estimates, available through the CSSB Online Services or by request.

Board Member Changes

The Civil Service Superannuation Board welcomed two new appointees, Mr. Normand Collett and Mr. Andrew Clarke.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to outgoing appointees Ms Lynn Romeo and Mr. Gabriel Forest for their efforts and contributions as Board and Committee members.

Websites Redesigned

CSSB Online Services and the general CSSB website are being redesigned and expanded. If you're signed up for Online Services, watch your email for notification of the launch dates. If you're not already signed up, please visit www.cssb.mb.ca to register. Registration codes for Online Services are provided annually in notification letters sent to members who have not yet signed up, or are available by contacting the Board office.

Members can estimate their retirement pension or current transfer values using our Online Services.

Members may now complete their retirement forms online. This feature gives members the option of printing their completed forms for signature and submission to the CSSB office, or having us print the completed forms and mailing them to the member for signature and submission. Automatic edits in the online process help reduce potential problems and errors.

Members are welcome to contact the CSSB office for assistance completing their forms, or with any questions they may have.

Reserve Your Spot In A Pre-Retirement Seminar or Request a One-on-One Session

The CSSB conducts half-day Pre-Retirement Seminars (approximately four hours) designed for members who are beginning to plan for retirement. They are presented in major centres throughout Manitoba for groups of 15 to 50 people. The focus of these seminars is on pension and insurance benefits offered through the CSSB. In addition, members can meet with CSSB staff in Winnipeg and rural areas to discuss pension and insurance benefits.

Our upcoming Pre-Retirement Seminars and out-of-town One-on-One sessions are posted on our website. Members are encouraged to register for Pre-Retirement Seminars through our Online Services. One-on-one sessions can be booked by calling our office directly.

Keep Your Online Profile Up-To-Date

To ensure that you continue to receive relevant information from the CSSB, please remember to keep your Online Services contact information current. This includes keeping your Primary email address and home mailing address up-to-date using the Online Services **Edit My Profile** feature.

If your Primary email address for Online Services is your work email, you may prefer to change it to your home email address. This will ensure you continue to receive relevant emails from the CSSB if you leave your employment or will be away from the office for an extended period.

Questions or Comments?

If you have any question or concerns, please contact

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