

member news



Thinking about retiring? Group benefits for retired members are changing

If you are currently working for a Municipal Pension Plan employer and thinking about retiring, please note that group benefits for retired members are changing January 1, 2017.

The changes are required to continue providing access to extended health care and dental coverage for retired plan members, ensuring the program continues to provide the best value for the funds available.

What is changing?

Currently	Effective January 1, 2017
Open formulary with low cost alternatives and PharmaCare pricing limits	Blue RX Drug Formulary
Annual deductible is \$100 per family	Annual deductible will be \$100 per person
Co-insurance is 80 per cent on first \$1,000 in claims per person per calendar year	Co-insurance will be 70 per cent on first \$1,000 in claims per person per calendar year
Lifetime maximum is \$100,000 per person	Lifetime maximum will be \$200,000 per person
Dental is subsidized	No dental subsidy; unsubsidized voluntary dental plan available

How will these changes affect you?

- If you are nearing retirement—these changes will affect your extended health care and dental coverage available through the plan. For more information, visit the plan website at mpp.pensionsbc.ca/groupbenefits.

- If you are **not** considering retiring soon—although these benefits are changing, your basic pension is secure and guaranteed for life.

Why are group benefits for retired members changing?

Changes need to be made because the current group benefits program for retired members is not sustainable. Many factors, including more retirees, the general health of retirees, longer life expectancy and an aging population, increase the cost of extended health care and dental coverage so the amount of subsidy the board is able to provide declines over time.

Group benefits for retired members are not guaranteed because your plan contributions do not fund them. A portion of employer contributions allocated to the supplemental benefits account funds group benefits for retired members, subject to available funding.

These changes are required to continue meeting one of the board's priorities of providing access to group benefits for retired plan members.

Questions?

For more information, visit the plan website at mpp.pensionsbc.ca/groupbenefits.

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