

Pension Life

Your connection to the Teachers' Pension Plan

We have three priorities

...including extended health care and dental

As your Teachers' Pension Plan trustees, we have three priorities: the preservation of your basic pension, the sustainability of cost-of-living adjustments, and extended health care (EHC) and dental coverage for retired members.

As we're in the early stages of reviewing the plan's EHC and dental program (see more, below right), we thought now would be a good time to give members a refresher.

More than 28,000 retired plan members use the plan's EHC and dental coverage.



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What are the basics of EHC and dental?

EHC and dental coverage, whether you have it through the plan or through another organization, gives you access to group rates and covers medical treatment costs beyond what's provided by provincial health plans.

EHC and dental coverage usually reimburses costs on prescription drugs, hearing aids, glasses or contact lenses, and medical aids and supplies. It may also cover the costs of professional health care services, such as physiotherapy and massage therapy, as well as emergency medical and dental expenses if you're travelling within Canada.



Follow us on Twitter @BCTeachersPlan

How do I sign up?

You can enrol in the plan's EHC and dental coverage **if you have had ongoing similar coverage in a different EHC or dental plan since you retired.** This could mean you've been covered under your spouse's employer's plan. Or perhaps you've had coverage with a health carrier affiliated with a different organization or private insurer.

Signing up is straightforward. Visit *Your pension* on the plan website and explore [Retirement health coverage](#).

Once you sign up, you must remain enrolled for a minimum of 12 months. (There are certain rare exceptions where you can cancel early, such as returning to work.) After 12 months, you have the option of cancelling.

If you cancel and want to sign up again later, you can as long as you maintain ongoing similar coverage in another EHC or dental plan after cancelling.

How do I pay premiums?

Premiums are deducted directly from your monthly pension payment.

More questions?

If you have additional questions about eligibility, you can find more information on the plan website, including a link to Green Shield Canada's (GSC's) [My Benefit Plan](#) booklet. You can also contact GSC directly for information about what's included.

Shape the future of EHC and dental

We are currently working on ways to ensure that the plan's EHC and dental coverage will meet retired members' future needs. We will be seeking retired members to give us feedback this fall. Watch the plan website and Twitter (@BCTeachersPlan) for more information about how you can get involved.

tpp.pensionsbc.ca



Contact Green Shield Canada for specific questions about your health care and dental coverage.

Web: greenshield.ca Toll-free: [1-888-711-1119](tel:1-888-711-1119)



2022 pension deposit dates

July	28	October	28
August	30	November	29
September	28	December	22

For banks outside Canada, direct deposit dates may vary.

tpp.pensionsbc.ca/pension-payments-and-dates

Do more in My Account

- Sign up to go paper-free
- View annual pension statements and transaction statements
- View or print your annual tax slips
- View extended health care and dental enrolment
- View payment history and pension payment schedule



myaccount.pensionsbc.ca

New trustee Al Cornes: Set up for success!



Like many retirees, Al Cornes finds retirement isn't all rest and relaxation. After a 40-year career in the education sector in Ontario and BC, Al is spending his retirement supporting teachers as a trustee with the Teachers' Pension Board of Trustees.

Appointed to the board in January 2022 by the BC Teachers' Federation (BCTF), Al brings 25 years of experience advocating for stronger pensions and benefits for teachers and educators. He currently serves on the BCTF and BC Retired Teachers' Association (BCRTA) pension committees. What he enjoys most is the opportunity to "work with active and retired teachers to build a better understanding of their Teachers' pension and group benefits," he says.

Al is passionate about setting people up for success. "In my role as a teacher, I enjoyed helping students find self-confidence and achieve important goals for themselves," he says. "In my role as an activist, I worked with teachers to ensure every classroom had adequate resources for student success."

Decades of experience as a teacher and pension advocate has set Al up for success as a trustee. Working with different groups of people has taught him the importance of collaboration. "Everyone has something important to contribute, and a diversity of perspectives helps us achieve the best results," he says.

Al's work on the BCTF and BCRTA pension committees has contributed to the success of the plan. He's proud to be a trustee of a plan that is the "result of a 90-year collective effort." Al takes pride in the fact that the pension plan is "well run, financially sound and well positioned to weather challenges."

Al and Kathie—his spouse of 50 years—call Vancouver's False Creek home. In their downtime, they enjoy the green spaces and many paths their community has to offer. They love gardening and spending time with their four grandchildren, who range in age from four months to six years old.

In addition to his volunteer work with the BCRTA, Al sings in a choir and serves on the board of the BC Labour Heritage Centre. Despite Al's active retirement, he and Kathie do manage, now and then, to squeeze in a bit of rest and relaxation at their family cabin.

Pension Life is published twice a year. You may receive more than one copy of *Pension Life* if you receive a pension from more than one pension plan. Read your statement letter to determine which plan provides your group benefits. Any person entitled to a benefit, or their agent, has the right to examine plan documents, data and public information about the plan.

Review your contact information

Make sure we can get you the pension information you need. Update your email, address and phone number in My Account.

▶ myaccount.pensionsbc.ca



Contact us through Message Centre

Access your secure personal pension inbox by clicking on the envelope in the top right corner.

2020 valuation results

In the winter 2022 issue of *Pension Life*, we noted that the December 31, 2020, actuarial valuation showed the plan has a surplus of \$1.58 billion. This means that the plan has more money than is needed to pay the pensions of current and future retired members.

Since then, the board has decided to leave the surplus in the plan's basic account. This will help the plan's financial position when future valuations are undertaken. There will be no change to member or employer contribution rates. For more information, please visit the *News* section of the website, under *About us*.

An easier way to prove your income

Instantly download an income verification letter in My Account. A financial institution, foreign government office or other organization may request proof of income on applications for certain programs and services. The PDF letter shows your gross monthly pension payment.

▶ myaccount.pensionsbc.ca

Retirees' associations

BC Retired Teachers' Association

Guarding the interests and promoting the welfare of its members.

Web: bcrta.ca

Toll-free: [1-877-683-2243](tel:1-877-683-2243)

Email: office@bcrta.ca

Retired Principals' & Vice-Principals' Association

BCRPVPA is a group of retired professionals with common goals and interests. It promotes the welfare of its members, fosters liaisons among members and active principals and vice-principals, and supports young people by providing scholarships and bursaries.

Web: bcrpvpa.ca

Email: info@bcrpvpa.ca

BC School Superintendents Association

Transforming, reforming and innovating: leading and learning together.

Web: bcssa.org

Phone: [604-687-0590](tel:604-687-0590)

Email: information@bcssa.org



Teachers'
Pension Plan

Pension Life

When contacting the plan, please include your Person ID number (see your pension statement).

Web: tpp.pensionsbc.ca

Toll-free: [1-866-876-8877](tel:1-866-876-8877) (Canada/U.S.)

Mail: PO Box 9460, Victoria BC V8W 9V8