

#### **IMPORTANT**

Please review your **Member Statement** carefully. Address changes can be done online or by calling SPP. **Beneficiary changes** must be done in writing. The Designation of Beneficiary form can be downloaded from the website or mailed to you.

#### **Events**

September 6 - 8, 2018 Oral Professionals, TCU Saskatoon September 27, 2018 Chiropractor's Conference October 12 - 13, 2018 WOBE, Warman October 18, 2018 B2B Expo, Regina



**Business Testimonials** 

#### Blogs

June 7 New blogger takes over... July 5 What's on your bucket list... July 12 Protecting pensions... July 19 Debt-Free Forever...

# Enjoy it all

Imagine celebrating and enjoying every stage of your life, rather than conforming to society's expectations about your age. Wouldn't that be great? We think so!

We think it doesn't matter how old you are: you're never too old or too young to do something you love. Don't let your age limit your career, your passions, or your attitude! At Saskatchewan Pension Plan, we encourage you to Act Your Age—in whatever way you want!



Need some inspiration? Check out Carol, Nicholas, and Jeff's stories at **actyourage.ca** to see how they're defying expectations and doing what they love. They are doing it, you can too!

### Variable Benefit update

Development of a variable pension benefit (VPB) product for Saskatchewan Pension Plan (SPP) members is progressing. This is such a great option to look forward to in 2019 as members will have more flexibility with their retirement savings and be assured of the same stable low fee investment management approach they have come to expect from SPP.



The VPB will be available as a retirement option to members between the ages of 55 and 71. Members will be able to move all or a portion of their fund into the VPB option and must name a beneficiary for their VPB account. Minimum withdrawals will be the same as required by Canada Revenue Agency.

Another great option for members is the ability to transfer in up to \$10,000 per year, tax free, into the VPB account from an existing RRSP/RRIF.

Watch for more updates on this new product. 💠

### Maximum contribution is indexed

As you know, in 2018 the annual maximum contribution for SPP is \$6,000, subject to available RRSP room. What's even more exciting is that the limit will now be indexed and will change each year on January 1. The change to the limit will be announced on our website in early December.  $\clubsuit$ 



Your retirement grows here



## SPP Myths

SPP receives calls from members or potential members starting with 'I heard that' and ending with 'is it true?'. We have tried to put some of the answers together for you.



Myth - SPP keeps all my money when I die.

**Fact** - When you join SPP, you name a beneficiary for your account and if you die prior to receiving pension payments, that's who will receive the money in your account. You can change your beneficiary designation at any time.

At retirement, you choose what form of pension to receive and the death benefit will be paid according to the terms of that annuity contract. There are options that permit a lump sum payment of any remaining balance to a beneficiary or a continuing monthly payment to your spouse after your death.

When SPP's variable pension benefit option is operational, members will also name a beneficiary in the event they die before the account is depleted.

Myth - SPP is the same as an RRSP

Fact - While SPP is like an RRSP when it comes to deducting your contributions on the tax form, there are some important differences you should be aware of. First, since SPP is a pension plan, it is locked in until age 55 which is the earliest retirement benefits can be accessed from your account. Second, again because it's a pension plan, your funds are pooled with those of other investors so you get the benefit of institutional investment management and fees. This means potentially more money for you to spend in the golden years.

Myth - SPP only invests in Saskatchewan companies

Fact - While SPP's office is in Saskatchewan, its investment opportunities are world-wide. An investment management structure has been implemented, consisting of two active balanced managers with offsetting management styles. The fund holds a diversified portfolio of publicly traded Canadian, U.S. and non North American equities, real estate, infrastructure, fixed income and mortgages which increases the opportunity to add value.

The Short-term fund invests in a Canadian pooled fund containing high quality money market instruments issued by governments, corporations, trusts and other commercial entities. All securities in the fund have a term to maturity of 365 days or less.  $\diamond$ 

# **MySPP**

As of July 9, 2018, 3,061 active members are enrolled in MySPP. Member comments have been positive about the new feature. It's so easy to watch your account grow. Take

a look each month after the earnings are posted to your account and print off those lost tax slips or member statements when you need them. \*

# **Email options**

As SPP grows, we are looking to change the way we get information and changes about the Plan to you. Emailing your newsletter is one of



those changes. In order to email you your newsletter, SPP must obtain clear consent from you. Go to saskpension.com - Stay in the know - and submit your email address. We will start sending the newsletter electronically. \*

### My will story



My spouse and I talked about a will for many years. I was hesitant to go talk to a professional, I didn't want to feel intimidated. I didn't know if I had to own property or have lots of money. I wondered if it was really

necessary. How much would it cost?

I spent a lot of time reading information from the Public Guardian and Trustee and subscribed to a few newsletters published by estate lawyers. The information helped me realize how important this planning step is. I want to make it as easy as possible for those I maybe leaving behind.

Finally, we made the appointment with a lawyer. We discussed our home, pensions, savings and belongings and what our wishes were. Our lawyer pointed out things that I hadn't really thought about and I feel better now, knowing it is done. We came home, let our executors know where our will could be accessed and it's done. And the cost didn't break us! We just have to remember to update our wills if we have any significant changes.

In my humble opinion, take the time to research and prepare your will. It's one of the most important life decisions you will make.

Mary Ann - Client Services - SPP 🗞

#### Stay in the know

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The SPP Contributions Newsletter is issued three times a year to provide members with general information about current issues affecting SPP.

If any discrepancy arises between the information contained in this newsletter and the Act, the Act will prevail. P.O. Box 5555 608 Main St Kindersley, SK CANADA S0L 1S0 PHONE 1-800-667-7153 FAX (306) 463-3500

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SASKATCHEWAN PENSION PLAN

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