



Deadlines

The deadline for contributing to 2019 is **March 2, 2020**. Your contribution must be received by SPP on or before March 2, 2020 to be eligible for the 2019 tax deadline.

Limit increase

It's here! Contributions are indexed annually and the limit was increased to **\$6,300** as of **January 1, 2020**.

Blogs

Our blogger is Martin Biefer, who has been writing for over 35 years. He writes about saving for retirement, ways to save, the ins and outs of retirement, the importance of health and fitness as we age, and much more. Check out savewithspp.com for interesting articles, book reviews, financial results and celebrity interviews.

2019	
Fund	Return
Balanced	14.0%
Short-term	1.8%

Visit saskpension.com for a complete list of returns and further information on investment performance.

2020 Investment outlook

Investment markets for 2019 had a strong bounce-back year after the volatile 4th quarter at the end of 2018. Economists and investment managers stand divided regarding expectations for 2020. Some believe 2020 will continue to grow while others expect market volatility will lead to a longer term decline. With the markets rising and finishing the year strong, it may be overdue for a correction. Trump impeachment talks, U.S./ China trade wars and the ongoing Brexit are all catalysts for potential volatility in 2020. Saskatchewan Pension Plan (SPP) is a long-term retirement savings plan that has yielded a strong return to members over time. SPP's return will rise and fall with investment markets. To protect member interests in the fund, the Board has carefully developed an investment policy and is confident in continued strong, long-term results.

Investment managers invest for the long term, and navigate short-term volatility by looking for sustainable performance over longer periods. TD Asset Management (TDAM) and Leith Wheeler, our two investment managers, monitor markets and have been reducing the risks as the strong cycle has gotten longer in anticipation of potential downfalls. Manager diversification and a cautious approach to investing, as well as investment diversification within the investment types, is the managers' strategy to provide some downside protection. ❖



Variable benefit update

As readers know SPP is developing a variable benefit (VB) product which will be available as a new retirement option for retiring members. The July newsletter contained many administrative details about the VB and the purpose of this article is to provide an update.

Diversified Income Fund (DIF)

As preparations continue for the VB launch, one of the final steps executed at January 1, 2020 was the implementation of the DIF by TD Asset Management (TDAM). As the sole investment manager for the DIF, formerly the short-term fund, TDAM will use a combination of short-term investments and units in their Core Plus Bond Fund to add return for members in a low risk investment option. Fund facts for the DIF will be available on saskpension.com in March 2020.

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Contributing and VB members may choose to invest in the balanced fund (BF), DIF or a combination of the two funds to suit their risk tolerance and financial needs. The balanced fund has a long term focus to provide growth and safety to members. The DIF provides a low risk investment option to members nearing or in retirement.

SPP's Transfer and Investment Instructions form is used to provide investment instructions to SPP. These interfund transfers occur on the last day of the month and instructions must be received five business days prior to the end of the month. The first two interfund transfers each calendar year are free; each one thereafter is \$50.

The big question

'When will the VB be launched?' The anticipated date of late in 2019 did not materialize and for that we sincerely apologize. The first half of 2020 seems more realistic, especially for those members who live in Saskatchewan. For those who live outside of Saskatchewan it may take longer as SPP seeks approval from securities regulators in other provinces. Watch the website for news updates on the VB. ❖

Member statements

Included with this mailing is your 2019 member statement. The statement provides the final return and the Plan's management expense ratio (MER).

Please take the time to review your personal information and provide updates and changes as necessary such as mailing address or beneficiary information. You can update your address on saskpension.com or by calling the office toll-free at 1-800-667-7153. The Designation of Beneficiary form can be downloaded from the website and mailed or emailed to SPP. ❖

Tax Receipts

Tax receipts for the period of March 2 - December 31, 2019 were mailed on January 8, 2020. If you have not received your receipt you can print it from MySPP.

There will be two more groups of receipts; one after February 14 and then again after March 2. These receipts will also be available on MySPP. If you require changes to your receipt the request must be made in writing. You can email your request to info@saskpension.com. ❖

Introducing Shonna

Shonna joined SPP as the Accountant in December 2019. She is one of the people you can talk to about a T4A/NR4 and will also assist you with income tax questions. We would like to welcome Shonna to the SPP team. You can count on Shonna for excellent member service. ❖



New website, new look!

Saskpension.com has a new look. We invite you to check it out today. You will find the same information as always and we are ready to assist you with navigating the new layout.



What's on our website

- We've compiled forms necessary for members or their representatives in one place:
 - Transfer funds into SPP
 - Pre-authorized contribution forms
 - Change in PAC/PCC form, and
 - Designation of Beneficiary form
- Short videos about the Saskatchewan Pension Plan (SPP) and other key information
- Newsletters
- Access to MySPP to view contribution history, account information and view and print tax slips and statements. ❖

Missing Members

If you know these members, please contact our office.

Stanley Davies
Kuanren Yang



MySPP

Take time today to enrol in MySPP. It's easy! Call us if you would like some help. ❖

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.

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