

Pension Life

Your connection to the Teachers' Pension Plan

Good news for 2022

Message from the trustees

The start of a new year is traditionally a time of optimism. We think the information in this issue of *Pension Life* will go a little way in making that optimism a reality. What's the good news? You're receiving a full cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for 2022, and the plan's recent valuation shows the plan remains sustainable and healthy (see the story on page 2).

2022 COLA

Effective January 1, 2022, you received a COLA of 4.4 per cent. The COLA matches the annual change in the Canadian consumer price index (CPI) in the 12 months up to and including September 30, 2021.

If you retired partway through 2021, your 2022 COLA will be pro-rated based on the number of months in 2021 you received a pension.

Plan rules allow us to grant an annual COLA up to the annual percentage increase in the CPI.

It is a priority for us to provide sustainable COLAs to help you maintain the purchasing power of your pension. While not guaranteed, once it is granted, a COLA becomes part of your basic pension and, if applicable, your bridge benefit and temporary annuity for as long as you receive them. The money for COLAs is taken from the inflation adjustment account (IAA), which, like the basic account, is funded by investment returns and member and employer contributions.

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The graph (above right) shows how COLAs help your pension keep up with inflation.

You may notice that retired members from some BC public sector pension plans receive different COLAs than you do each year. This is because each plan calculates COLAs in a slightly different way. Averaged over multiple years, however, you receive the same COLA as members of other plans.



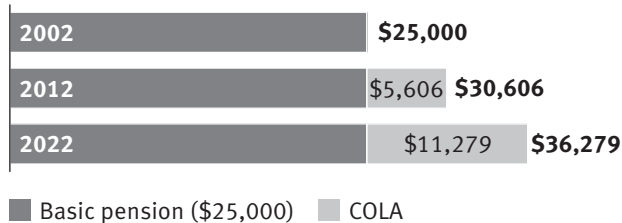
Pension payments 2022

January	28	July	28
February	25	August	30
March	30	September	28
April	28	October	28
May	30	November	29
June	29	December	22

For banks outside Canada, direct deposit dates may vary.

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

Basic pension plus COLAs granted (\$)



A shift in contribution allocation

The IAA is healthy and well funded. This allowed us to move two per cent of salary from the IAA to the rate stabilization account (RSA)—one per cent each from the member and employer. The change is retroactive to January 1, 2020.

The RSA is designed to help protect active members and employers from contribution rate increases in the case of a future negative valuation.

The IAA will remain healthy even with the shift in contributions. Contributions can be shifted back to the IAA from the RSA in future, if necessary.

A new way to prove your income

Instantly access an income verification letter at any time through My Account. You can now easily download a PDF letter showing your gross monthly pension payment. Use this and other self-service options in My Account to get the pension information you need quickly and conveniently.

• myaccount.pensionsbc.ca

Tax slips available online

Your current and previous tax slips are available through My Account. Sign in to My Account today to view and print your tax slips.

• *Questions about completing your tax return?*
Visit canada.ca or call Canada Revenue Agency at **1-800-959-8281**.

Do more in My Account

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



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Reg. T.M. British Columbia Pension Corporation

Your plan is 105.3 per cent funded

Through the pandemic, the plan remains strong

You can be proud of the Teachers' Pension Plan's strong financial results.

The latest valuation of the plan, measured as at December 31, 2020, shows the plan's basic account (the account from which member pensions are paid) has actuarial assets of \$31.54 billion and actuarial liabilities of \$29.96 billion. This means the plan has a surplus of \$1.58 billion and has more money than is needed to pay the pensions of current and future retired plan members.

These results come despite a difficult two years that included the global pandemic and significant economic challenges. The results demonstrate the strength of the plan's governance structure, and investment principles and policies, all of which help keep the plan focused on its goal of providing retirement security for teachers and educators throughout the province.

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What is a valuation?

A valuation is the most important measurement of plan health. Using a series of economic and demographic assumptions, the valuation determines how much money the plan needs to pay current and future pensions.

An independent actuary—a professional with specialized training in financial modelling, laws of probability and risk management—performs a valuation at least every three years.

What does this mean for members?

When there is a valuation surplus, the Teachers' Pension Board of Trustees uses the Joint Trust Agreement (JTA) to help guide its decisions on the use of that surplus.

The JTA is a document established by the plan partners (BC Teachers' Federation and the Province of BC) as a governance framework for the plan. It gives the board direction on how to manage the plan.

Now that the valuation results are known, the board will carefully examine the options available to it under the JTA. The decision it makes will be sustainable and equitable to members and employers. The board will notify you when that decision has been made.

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.

Update your information in My Account

Keeping your contact information updated is easy and it helps us process your pension.

🔗 myaccount.pensionsbc.ca



Contact us through Message Centre

Your messages and our replies are saved in one location for easy reference.

Extended health care and dental rates

The new monthly rates are in effect as of February 1, 2022, and may change at any time.

Monthly rates (\$)

Coverage	Single	Couple	Family	
Extended health care	90.61	181.40	352.52	
Dental	Essential	29.94	56.92	95.95
	Enhanced	56.64	107.55	151.87



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

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



Timely tips, news and links [@bcteachersplan](https://twitter.com/bcteachersplan)

Retirees' associations

BC Retired Teachers' Association

Guarding the interests and promoting the welfare of its members.

Web: bcrtca.ca Toll-free: [1-877-683-2243](tel:1-877-683-2243) (BC)
Email: office@bcrtca.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: bcrvpa.ca

BC School Superintendents Association

Transforming, reforming and innovating: leading and learning together.

Web: bcssa.org



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