



**PUBLIC SERVICE PENSION BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

June 1 and 2, 2021
Victoria, British Columbia

The Meeting Highlights is a summary of issues that were considered, or decisions that were made, by the Public Service Pension Board of Trustees [Board] at its latest meetings.

Please note that the official Board Minutes record the business conducted by the Public Service Pension Board of Trustees and their decisions. If there are any discrepancies between the Meeting Highlights and the official Board Minutes, the official Board Minutes shall govern. Disclosure of any documents referred to in the Meeting Highlights or the official Board Minutes is subject to applicable Board policy and the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Pension Board Matters

The Board approved the trust fund expenditure of up to \$114,098 for the purchase of fiduciary liability insurance for the period June 20, 2021 to June 20, 2022.

The Board extended the term of Maria Middlemiss as Vice-chair to a three-year term ending March 31, 2024.

The 2022 Board and Committee meeting dates were approved.

Reports from Service Providers

Administration services are provided by the BC Pension Corporation and investment management services are provided by the BC Investment Management Corporation [BCI]. The provider of post-retirement group health and dental benefits administration is Green Shield Canada [GSC].

A. Plan Administration – Report from the Pension Corporation

The Board received reports on service delivery costs for 2020/21 and compliance and operational statistics for the six months from October 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021. The reports also included post-retirement group benefit funding, volume metrics and service feedback scores for the year ending March 31, 2021.

B. Plan Investment – Report from BCI

The Board received reports on investment performance, strategy and BCI's diversity and inclusion strategy. The results of a benchmarking survey of BCI and its Canadian public pension manager peer group were also reported.

The preliminary rate of return for the total pension fund for the year ended March 31, 2021 was 17.2 per cent compared to the benchmark return of 21.0 per cent. The five year annualized return was 9.7 per cent, compared to the benchmark return of 9.1 per cent and the annualized 10-year return was 9.3 per cent compared to a benchmark of 8.2 per cent.

C. Post-retirement Group Health and Dental – Report from GSC

In the quarter, the Board received a report from GSC including call statistics, claim statistics and experience analysis for the year ending March 31, 2021. The Board also received reports on genetic testing for medical purposes (pharmacogenetics), and agreed not to include pharmacogenetics in the EHC plan.

The Board approved GSC communicating proactively about Changes4Life in two steps; first to the members who already participate in Changes4Life, and later to all members.

Committee Reports

A. Benefits Committee

In the last quarter, the Board approved changes to the extended healthcare (EHC) plan available to retired members of the Public Service Pension Plan. The changes will come into effect on January 1, 2022. The main change is to implement a tiered drug formulary based on BC PharmaCare coverage. Details will be posted on the website in July 2021 and a member webinar will be available on the plan website in the fall of 2021.

The Board approved revisions to the commuted value calculation methodology retroactive to December 1, 2020. The changes align the calculation methodology with the Canadian Institute of Actuaries standards of practice for commuted values.

The Board approved a long-term disability (LTD) policy for certain members of Translink Security Management Ltd. Once an LTD policy is approved, members on LTD are credited with pensionable and contributory service while they are receiving LTD benefits.

B. Communications Committee

The Board approved the text of the 2021 Report to Members. The report will be distributed to active members with the annual Member's Benefit Statement in September, and will also be available on the website.

The Board approved the trustees' message for the summer 2021 edition of the Pension Life newsletter for retired members.

C. Governance Committee

The Board approved revisions to its operational policies related to the policy review schedule and support and condolence policy.

D. Investment Committee

The Board approved updated performance objectives for the Mortgages and Infrastructure & Renewable Resources asset classes and related revisions to the [Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures](#) effective July 1, 2021.

E. Trustee Education

The Trustee Education Committee organizes the annual BC Public Sector Pension Conference, an initiative of the College, Municipal, Public Service and Teachers' Pension Boards of Trustees. The Board approved a preliminary budget for the 2022 conference.

The Board approved posting an existing video about joint trusteeship on the plan website.

F. Responsible Investment (RI) Committee

The Board approved revisions to the RI Committee mandate and *Guidelines for Joining Investor Collaborations*. The revisions reflect the on-going status of the Committee and its delegated authority to decide whether to participate in investor collaborations, approved at the March 2021 Board meeting.

G. Other Committees – No issues.

Website

The [Public Service Pension Plan website](#) contains valuable information about the Plan. You can find many of the Board's governance documents and operational policies in the

website under [About us > Who we are > Public Service Pension Plan](#). The web content is updated regularly.

Future Board Meetings

The next regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Public Service Pension Board of Trustees will take place on September 8 and 9, 2021 in Victoria.

Please direct any questions or comments about this document to:

Public Service Pension Board of Trustees

By phone 250 387-8200
By fax 250 387-4199
By email pspbt@pensionsbc.ca

For general questions about the Public Service Pension Plan, or about your pension, please contact the **BC Pension Corporation**:

By phone Victoria: 250 953-3033
 Toll-free in Canada and the U.S.: 1 800 665-3554
By fax 250 953-0425