

PEPP *Talk* . . .

on Termination Options

This issue of PEPP *Talk* provides members of the Public Employees Pension Plan (PEPP) with information on their options concerning their account balance upon termination from a PEPP participating employer. You will receive a termination option package from PEPP on termination from a PEPP participating employer.

Vested and Locked-In

You become vested and locked-in to the Plan effective the date of your enrolment.

Vested means you are entitled to the employer's contributions made on your behalf and the return on investment on these contributions. Locked-in means your account balance must be used to provide income at retirement. It cannot be refunded to you in cash.

Termination Options

Upon termination of your employment with a PEPP Participating Employer you may:

- leave your account balance in PEPP up to age 71 when the *Income Tax Act* states you must purchase a retirement income option. You will continue to accumulate plan membership and your account will continue to be valued based on current unit values. You can transfer your account balance as outlined below at any time, or you may use your account balance to provide retirement income as early as age 50. In the event of your death, your named beneficiary would receive the survivor benefit – the balance in your PEPP account;
- transfer your account balance and pensionable service to another Registered Pension Plan (RPP) in accordance with a reciprocal or portability agreement. Pensionable service can only be transferred to another RPP in accordance with a reciprocal or portability agreement. We require a completed Canada Revenue Agency T2151 form to complete this transaction. This form is available from PEPP or your financial institution. Please contact PEPP and the Pension Plan you are transferring to for instructions on how to proceed with this option;
- transfer your account balance to a Locked-in Retirement Account (LIRA);
- if you are at least age 50, you are eligible for retirement options and to begin to receive retirement income immediately. You may choose one or a combination of the following options:
 - apply for the PEPP Variable Pension Benefit (VPB);
 - purchase a life annuity from the Saskatchewan Pension Annuity Fund (SPAF) or an authorized insurance company; and/or
 - purchase a prescribed Registered Retirement Income Fund (pRRIF) from a financial institution.

Please refer to the *Retirement Income Options Booklet* for more information.

- if your account balance is below a dollar minimum calculated as 20 per cent of the Yearly Maximum Pensionable Earnings (YMPE) (as determined by the Canada Pension Plan) or you are age 50 or over and your annual pension is less than four per cent of YMPE, you may apply for the Small Pension Payment. The lump-sum payment may be transferred to an RRSP, or you may receive a cash refund (less withholding tax). Call PEPP to see if you qualify.
- if you are a qualified non-resident Canadian you may request a lump sum payment of your entire PEPP account less income tax. See the PEPP Talk on Lump Sum Payments to a Non-Resident of Canada.

Unlocking Voluntary Contributions at Termination

Voluntary contributions made **on or after January 1, 2001** become unlocked when you terminate from employment with a participating employer. On your termination date you are eligible to:

- receive a lump-sum payment (less withholding tax) of the value of the units purchased with voluntary contributions made on or after January 1, 2001; or
- transfer the value of the units purchased with voluntary contributions made on or after January 1, 2001 to a Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP), (tax-free rollover).

All voluntary contributions made **prior to January 1, 2001** remain locked-in.

Exercising Your Option

You may exercise your option by completing the applicable *PEPP Termination Option Form* and returning it to PEPP along with any applicable certificates (such as birth certificate, marriage certificate or divorce decree) and Canada Revenue Agency forms required.

The amount you will receive at payout or transfer will be calculated using the unit value in effect at the actual date of payment.

Other publications that may interest you:

- ***Retirement Income Options Booklet*** - provides information on the options for your account balance at retirement
- ***PEPPTalk - Transferring Money into PEPP*** provides information on transferring monies into your PEPP account from another type of registered retirement plan
- ***PEPPTalk - Reciprocal Transfer Agreements*** provides information, questions, and explanations that are helpful if you are considering transferring
- ***PEPPTalk - Units and Unit Values*** provides information on buying and selling units you transfer out of the Plan or among the funds.

These publications are available on our website at www.peba.gov.sk.ca.

Questions

For further information about termination options, contact:

Public Employees Pension Plan (PEPP)
c/o Public Employees Benefits Agency (PEBA)
1000 - 1801 Hamilton Street
REGINA SK S4P 4W3

Phone: 306-787-5442, in Regina
or toll free at 1-877-275-7377 (from outside the Regina calling area)

FAX: 306-787-0244

Email: pepp@peba.gov.sk.ca

The information contained in this issue of PEPP *Talk* does not replace or supersede *The Public Employees Pension Plan Act* or *The Pension Benefits Act, 1992* or related regulations. In the event of any misunderstanding or conflict, the Acts and Regulations will prevail. Please contact PEPP if you are or were working outside Saskatchewan. Your pension may be subject to the legislation of another province.

The Public Employees Pension Plan produces issues of PEPP *Talk* as a service to its members. These documents provide information on specific provisions of the Plan. Plan information is available in a variety of other forms including: issues of PEPP *Talk* on other topics; our newsletter, "Pension Perspectives"; PEPP Member Booklet; and the PEPP home page www.peba.gov.sk.ca/pensions/pepp/home.html

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