

CUPE BC Municipal Pension Plan Trustees' Report to Convention – April 2018

This report outlines the 2017 activities of CUPE BC's two Trustees to the Municipal Pension Plan.

In 2017, Brother Trevor Davies and I sat on the following committees:

- **Communications and Advocacy** – Responsible for communication to members, public and stakeholders
- **Valuation** – Responsible for determining the value of the plan
- **Investment** – Responsible for recommending strategic investment policy and monitoring investment performance

These committees, along with Governance, Investment, Benefits and Appeals, form an integral part of the overall structure of the MPP and contribute to its ongoing successful operation.

In August, I attended my third Advanced Trustee Management Standards (ATMS) Quality Series Course sponsored by the International Foundation of Employee Benefits and Pensions (IFEBCP). I was also able to attend the IFEBCP Canadian Annual Conference. These were both held in Montreal, Quebec. Brother Davies attended the Portfolio Concepts and Management weeklong school at the University of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania in the spring of 2017.

2017 was a stable year for the MPP. The plan had assets of over \$48 billion. This is an increase of \$2 billion over 2016. The preliminary return on investments as at June 30, 2017 was 10.8% which is above the benchmark of 10.1%.

The plan was able to provide a cost of living allowance (COLA) of 1.6 % effective January 1, 2018 to all of the plan's retirees. The COLA is determined by calculating the Consumer Price Index from September 2016 – September 2017. This increase becomes part of the retiree's permanent pension payment.

A post-retirement group benefits program review began in late 2017. This review is being administered by the Benefits Committee. This review will look at both the extended health and dental programs provided to retirees through Pacific Blue Cross. Preliminary results of the review will be addressed at the 2018 AGM.

A new and improved MPP website was launched in April of 2017. There are many updated features of the new website including MyAccount and an online application process for those who have decided to retire.

The 2017 Annual General meeting was held on October 12th at the Anvil Centre in New Westminster. 270 people attended including active members, retirees and employers. There were also 40 trustees and service providers present. The audio recording and presentation slides are available on the MPP website. The 2018 AGM will again be held at The Anvil Centre on October 11th.

We would like to acknowledge Brother Gary Yee, Municipal Employees Pension Committee (MEPC) Trustee, who served as the 2017 Board Chair. Brother Yee will assume the role of Vice-Chair in 2018.

As we move through 2018, Brother Davies and I will continue to work diligently to ensure that the MPP remains a strong, healthy and sustainable plan for all CUPE members in BC.

We thank Brother Paul Faoro for his continued trust and support of our work with the plan.

In Solidarity,

Sister Patti Price
Primary Trustee

Brother Trevor Davies
Alternate Trustee