

Understanding Your Pension Highlights Statement

Your *Pension Highlights* statement provides valuable information about your MEPP pension. The following guide is intended to answer some common questions about the statement. **More information can be found online at MEPP.ca.**

Common Questions

What do I do if the pension partner or beneficiaries listed on my statement are incorrect?

Remember that your pension partner (if you have one) is not the same thing as a beneficiary! Generally speaking, your **pension partner** is someone you are married to, or someone with whom you are in a spouse-like relationship with for three consecutive years, and who will automatically receive special protection by law when you pass away (unless they sign a waiver giving up their rights). A **beneficiary** is who you designate to receive a benefit in the event of your death (and the death of your pension partner, if you have one). Your designated beneficiaries can be one or more people, your estate, or even a charitable organization. More information about pension partners and beneficiaries can be found on MEPP.ca.

Pension partner additions: Can be done by sending us a completed Pension Partner Information form via Document Centre.

Removing or changing a pension partner listed: Please call the Member Services Centre.

Beneficiary updates: You can complete this change online when you log in to Your Pension Profile or by submitting a *Designation of Beneficiary(ies)* form by mail.

Your pension forms can be found on MEPP.ca.

Why is the pensionable salary for this year listed on my statement different than the salary shown on my T4?

The amount shown on your T4 may include earnings you received that are not considered pensionable salary, such as:

- Overtime
- Training reimbursement
- Payouts of excess or unused vacation or sick time
- Health spending or personal development payments

The pensionable salary shown on your *Pension Highlights* or on Your Pension Profile under Service History reflects the information provided to MEPP by your employer. Questions about your salary should be directed to your employer's Human Resources department or pay and benefits representatives.

What does it mean if my statement shows less than 1.0000 under the “credited service” section?

There are several situations that can result in less than 1.0000 of service being credited for a year, including:

- You worked part-time or your full-time equivalency was less than 1.0
- You started in the Plan part way through the year
- You had unpaid time off during the year, such as a leave without salary or time off after expending your vacation or sick time allocations

The pensionable service shown on your *Pension Highlights* or on Your Pension Profile under Service History reflects the information provided to MEPP by your employer. If you have questions or concerns about the amount shown, contact your employer's Human Resources department or pay and benefits representative.

Your employer can also provide you with information about purchasing any gaps in service.

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Why is the pension amount shown on my *Pension Highlights* statement different than what I see online with the Pension Projection Calculator? (under “accumulated pension”)

The pension amount shown on your *Pension Highlights* statement is your base pension, which means it is showing the Single Lifetime with a 5-year guaranteed term, and does not include:

- Any future service you might earn
- Any early retirement deductions for retiring before age 60 or your unreduced date (i.e. the date you reach your 80 factor)
- The effect of having a pension partner on joint lifetime pension options

The statement shows the base pension you have already earned as of the end of the preceding calendar year. The Pension Projection Calculator allows you to view your estimated future pension based on personalized information.

Read more about the pension options available to you on **MEPP.ca**.

There is More Online

Find out how MEPP can help you make the best decisions for you as you navigate life and all its changes by visiting the website at **MEPP.ca**.

Manage Your Pension Online using Your Pension Profile

It is easier than ever to view and manage your pension information online with **Your Pension Profile**, the secure member area of **MEPP.ca**.

We encourage you to register and log in today to access all the convenient features and information available, such as updating contact information through the Secure Messages tool and sending documents via Document Centre. Just look for the "Login" button on the top right corner on **MEPP.ca** to access them all.

Your MEPP Newsletter

Once you are registered for Your Pension Profile account, you can sign up for Go Green to receive notifications when the bi-annual MEPP Board newsletter is posted to the website. Go Green will also allow you to receive personal pension documents, such as your *Pension Highlights* statement and tax slips in retirement, online rather than through print mail.