This newsletter is designed to present York employees, former employees and retirees with useful general information pertaining to their pension & benefits. Please keep in mind that since this newsletter is distributed to different groups with different entitlements, for example former employees no longer have benefits, that all articles may not pertain to you and your situation.

**Pension Plan Solvency Relief**

On March 22, 2011 York University submitted an application for pension solvency relief to the Ministry of Finance, Pension Policy Branch.

A copy of the application is available on the Pension & Benefits website at

www.yorku.ca/hr/documents/Pension_Submission.pdf

The application was the first step in a two stage process that is intended to provide temporary relief for the funding of the solvency deficit and to alleviate what could be seen as a significant strain on the University’s operating budget.

In order to provide information regarding the York University application to the Ministry of Finance an information session will be held Thursday, April 7 from 12:15 to 1:15 in Room 1014 TEL. The session will be presented by Lorne Cohen FSA, FCIA, of AON Hewitt and Terisa Ducharme of the Pension & Benefits office. The session will also be recorded and posted on the Pension & Benefits website for those that are unable to attend. If there is need for additional sessions we will be pleased to schedule them.

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The first session was a general overview on pension plans to provide an understanding of employer sponsored plans and how they work.

The second session built on what was delivered in the first session but specifically spoke about the York University Pension Plan’s structure.

The third session, again built on what was delivered in the earlier sessions but provided an understanding of the Plan’s current financial situation and how it relates to the budget.

In the second and third session there was information regarding the government announcement to provide solvency funding relief to universities. If you are interested in viewing any of these, they are available for viewing at: www.yorku.ca/hr/services/employees/benefits.html#Pension Plan
Reminder of Changes to Drug Coverage

Prior to January 1, 2004, Natural Health Products were classified under the Food and Drug Act as either a drug product or a food product. As the use of Natural Health Products grew, it became apparent that these products needed to be categorized separately.

The Natural Health Products Regulations came into force on January 1, 2004 and were designed to control the safety, effectiveness, quality, identification and labelling of Natural Health Products.

Manufacturers have had six years to transition their natural health products to the new classification. This six-year period expired as of January 1, 2010 and all Natural Health Products had their NPN or DIN-HM by that date.

Some of the products that are no longer eligible for coverage under the York University benefit plan are described below:

- vitamins
- minerals (such as fluoride, iron, potassium and magnesium)
- non-prescription smoking cessation products

Preferred Vision Services

As an added feature of our group benefits plan with Sun Life, Preferred Vision Services offers savings on products and services for your eyes and ears. For more information you can access a flyer at:

www.yorku.ca/hr/documents/PVS_printable_PDF_E.pdf

Electronic Pension Statements

On April 1st, for active and deferred plan members only, an electronic copy of their 2010 Annual Personal Pension Statement will be available for viewing and printing on the York University Retirement Planner (www.yorku-ret.ca). Detailed instructions on how to log into the site can be found on our website at:

www.yorku.ca/hr/services/employees/yurp.html

For those who do not have an email address on file we will mail the statements to you at the beginning of May.

Meet a Pension & Benefits Team Member

Yvonne Rego, Pension & Benefits Counsellor

Yvonne is a Pension & Benefits Counsellor in Human Resources, managing Pension & Benefits issues for faculty and staff whose last name starts with M to R.

Yvonne is in her tenth year in the Pension and Benefits Office and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Studies. Previous to this, Yvonne worked for the Institute for Social Research (ISR) here at York University.
Sun Life Contest

As part of a new campaign to promote the many benefits of e-claims to plan members, Sun Life will be holding a contest between April 18 and June 19, 2011. By spending a few moments to learn about the benefits of e-claims, plan members will have a chance to win some great prizes, including:

- one of 20 $2,500 gift cards
- one of 20 BlackBerry PlayBooks

More information will be available on April 7th at www.sunlife.ca/getyourclaimon

Electronic Claim Filing

Anyone that submits claims electronically on the Sun Life member website (www.mysunlife.ca) must acknowledge and agree to the conditions as set out by Sun Life. Failure to meet the conditions will result in no longer having the ability to submit claims electronically and you will have to revert back to submitting claims by mail.

Questions & Answers

Q. Can there be changes to the pension plan that reduce my future pension?

A. In accordance with pension legislation in Ontario, accrued benefits to the effective date of any change cannot be reduced. If there is any future changes to plan benefits, it would only apply to future benefits earned. To the extent that there may be any such plan change, the University will provide illustrations as part of its commitment.

Benefit Claim Statistics

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
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<tr>
<td>Extended Health</td>
<td># claims submitted 137,736</td>
<td># claims submitted 149,285</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amount paid $14,360,927</td>
<td>Amount paid $15,475,915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental</td>
<td># claims submitted 107,818</td>
<td># claims submitted 108,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amount paid $10,662,895</td>
<td>Amount paid $10,912,326</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have a comment, question or a suggestion for P& B times, please email pbtimes@yorku.ca. Please ensure your question or comment is of a general nature. For more specific questions, please contact your Pension & Benefits counsellor.

Sun Life Address

For those who submit their benefit forms directly to Sun Life, there is a new mailing address:

Sun Life Financial,
P.O. Box 11658  Stn. CV
Montreal, PQ  H3C 6C1

The forms on our website have been updated and can be found at: www.yorku.ca/hr/services/employees/benefits.html#Forms

Remember you can sign up for Sun Life member services at www.mysunlife.ca to submit some claims electronically, sign up for direct deposit and receive your money faster.
P & B Times

York University  
Pension & Benefits Office  
Human Resources  
Suite A, East Office Building  
4700 Keele Street  
Toronto, ON M3J 1P3

Want the P&B Times faster and reduce paper? Contact us with a valid email.

Need More Information?

Information provided in this newsletter is of a general nature, should you require further information that specifically pertains to you please contact your Pension & Benefits Counsellor as listed in the chart below.

In the event the information contained herein conflicts with the applicable contract, policy or guideline, the terms of the contract, policy or guideline will prevail.

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<thead>
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<th>Employee's Last Name Initial</th>
<th>Counsellor</th>
<th>Extension</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A to E</td>
<td>Margaret Crowe</td>
<td>20377</td>
<td><a href="mailto:crowem@yorku.ca">crowem@yorku.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>G to L</td>
<td>Andreea Madaras</td>
<td>20702</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amadaras@yorku.ca">amadaras@yorku.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>M to R</td>
<td>Yvonne Rego</td>
<td>33912</td>
<td><a href="mailto:yrego@yorku.ca">yrego@yorku.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F, S to Z</td>
<td>Peter Chakonza</td>
<td>20617</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chakp@yorku.ca">chakp@yorku.ca</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here are just a few websites you can access to gain more information:

York’s Pension & Benefits Office:  [www.yorku.ca/hr/units/cpb/pensionbenefits.html](http://www.yorku.ca/hr/units/cpb/pensionbenefits.html)
York’s Employee Self Service: [www.yorku.ca/hr/services/employees/yesss/index.html](http://www.yorku.ca/hr/services/employees/yesss/index.html)
York’s Retirement Planning Centre: [www.yorku.ca/retire](http://www.yorku.ca/retire)
Sun Life’s Plan Member services: [www.sunlife.ca/member](http://www.sunlife.ca/member)
York University Retirement Planner: [www.yorku-ret.ca](http://www.yorku-ret.ca)