

COMMUNIQUÉ

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PENSION SURVEY RESULTS

As you know, changes were made to pension contribution rates in January 2007 and more are scheduled over the next two years.

These changes were needed to bring the Pension Plan into balance when the 2005 valuation was filed with the regulator. In filing the valuation, the parties also agreed to jointly commission a survey of Plan members conducted by Pollara and to study the assumptions used by the OTPPB in valuing the Plan.

The Partners and the OTPP Administration agreed to have an Expert Panel review the actuarial assumptions. That panel is continuing its work into the summer.

We shared this information with you in several ways including the *Looking Ahead* pension education resource. (www.otffeo.on.ca/en/teachers_pensions/lookingahead.php)

The Pollara survey results are now available.

Almost 3,000 members of the Plan, reflecting the demographics of contributing members were contacted in a telephone survey in April.

The results clearly show that the membership supports the position of OTF and the Affiliates that:

1. members' benefits should **not** be reduced; and
2. members are willing to increase contributions to keep the current level of pension benefits.

Support is consistent regardless of the career stage of members.

When the survey forced members to choose among benefit reduction scenarios—changing the 85-factor to a 90-factor; reducing by 10% the amount of the monthly pension cheque; or making the pension inflation protection variable, the greatest number of members chose the final option. This trend is also fairly consistent across career groupings. The one exception is among those already eligible for an unreduced pension who rarely chose this option.

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PENSION SURVEY RESULTS

(Continued)

Be assured that OTF and the Affiliates are committed to maintaining the existing benefits on behalf of all the membership. Furthermore, agreements among OTF, the Government and the Pension Plan ensure that should the economic conditions of the Plan improve, contribution rates will begin to move back to their previous levels.

We are very pleased that the survey shows a high level of awareness of how the Pension Plan works and the features of the pension that members will receive when they retire.

The takeaway message from the survey indicates that members understand the value of their pension plan and are willing to contribute more to maintain benefits. This result confirms the assumptions made by the OTF Executive in last year's pension discussions.

We want to express our appreciation to all those members who participated in the telephone survey. Your input will inform future decision making by OTF concerning your pension.

You can find more detailed information on the survey at www.otffeo.on.ca

If you have any questions about your personal situation you should contact OTF's Director of Pension & Economic Affairs, your Affiliate Pension Officer or the OTPPB.