



Meeting Highlights September 29, 2021 and November 16 and 17, 2021

Meeting Highlights¹ is a summary of issues considered or decisions made by the Municipal Pension Board of Trustees (board) at its latest board meetings.

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¹ Please note: the official Board Minutes record the business conducted by the Municipal Pension Board of Trustees and its decisions. If there are any discrepancies between the Meeting Highlights and the official Board Minutes, the official Board Minutes shall govern. Disclosure of any document referred to in the Meeting Highlights or the official Board Minutes is subject to applicable board policies.

Items of note

Plan design

The board approved the [Board Communiqué](#) regarding transitioning the governance of post-retirement group benefits (PRGB) to the Municipal Retiree Benefit Trust (MRBT). The board also approved various legal agreements to transition the PRGB program to the MRBT and to support the administration of the PRGB program provided through the MRBT.

Further information about the transition, including contact information for the MRBT board, can be found on the plan website at mpp.pensionsbc.ca. Click Plan changes > [Plan changes for retired members](#).

Trustee appointments

Hilary Brown will be chair of the board in 2022. Gary Yee was elected vice chair for 2022 and will be chair in 2023.

The board recognized departing trustees Lorne Burkart and Brian Schramm.

Various trustee appointments and reappointments to the board and committees occurred. More information about the trustees and their appointments can be found on the plan website at mpp.pensionsbc.ca. Click About us > Who we are > [Municipal Pension Plan](#).

2022 Cost-of-Living Adjustment

The board approved a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to regular pensions in pay of 2.1 per cent, effective January 1, 2022, which is the maximum allowed under the board's COLA cap.

The COLA cap is in place to help maintain the long-term sustainability of funds in the inflation adjustment account, so they aren't used up faster than they can be replaced. The COLA cap of 2.1 per cent will be reviewed during the plan's next actuarial valuation.

Annual General Meeting

The 2021 Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on October 14, 2021 via webcast. The webcast had approximately 580 attendees, which compares favourably to previous years.

Gary Yee, board chair, welcomed attendees to the plan's second virtual AGM. Presentations regarding 2020 financial highlights of the plan, plan changes, the plan's investments, and what's ahead were delivered, followed by a question and answer session.

A recording of the AGM webcast is available on the plan website [here](#).

The 2022 AGM will be held virtually on October 13, 2022.

Reports from service providers

Administration services are provided by BC Pension Corporation, and investment services are provided by BC Investment Management Corporation. Both agents report to the board at each regular board meeting.

Plan administration – report from BC Pension Corporation

The board received a report from the BC Pension Corporation regarding recent operational activities and performance, including collaboration with pension peers to produce an educational video about the benefits of defined benefit plans, and research underway to better understand new and younger members.

Plan investments – report from BC Investment Management Corporation

The board received the pension fund performance and strategy report as of June 30, 2021. The market value of the Municipal Pension Fund as at June 30, 2021 was \$69.1 billion. The annualized return for the total plan fund over the five years ended June 30, 2021 was 9.5 per cent, compared to the benchmark of 8.8 per cent.

The board received a report from BCI highlighting achievements for the quarter ended September 30, 2021, including BCI's reputation benchmarking results and an update on client engagement.

More information about Municipal Pension Plan investments can be found on the plan website at mpp.pensionsbc.ca. Click About us > [Investments](#).

Committee reports

The board has five standing committees (Benefits, Communications and Advocacy, Governance, Investment and Valuation) and an Appeals Panel.

A. Benefits Committee

The board approved that 2022 group benefit premiums will remain unchanged, effective February 1, 2022. The premiums are as follows:

Member Type	Extended Health Care Premium	Essential Dental Plan Premium	Enhanced Dental Plan Premium
Single	\$ 70	\$ 25.97	\$ 47.23
Couple	\$ 140	\$ 49.50	\$ 89.49
Family	\$ 273	\$ 83.26	\$ 126.63

The board approved a plan rule amendment to clarify the board's power to revoke the plan participation of any employer that ceases to meet terms and conditions of eligibility or fails to fulfill its obligations under the plan rules, effective November 17, 2021.

The board approved two Group 5 (public safety occupation) employer applications, two employer withdrawal applications, and one employer revocation.

B. Communications and Advocacy Committee

There were no items to report for the period.

C. Governance Committee

The board approved a budget of \$3.2 million and \$1.5 million for board operations and secretariat services, respectively, for the fiscal period January 1 to December 31, 2022.

D. Investment Committee

The board approved amendments to the Municipal Pension Plan Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures (SIPP) to implement a new foreign exchange hedging strategy, which removes hedges on real assets (real estate and infrastructure & renewable resources), effective January 1, 2022, with a transitional period of up to one year.

The SIPP sets investment guidelines and direction for BCI in accordance with the investment policies and objectives established by the board. The SIPP is available on the plan website at mpp.pensionsbc.ca. Click About us > [Governance Documents](#).

The board approved signing on to the Responsible Investment Association's Canadian Investor Statement on Climate Change. The statement is available on the plan website at mpp.pensionsbc.ca. Click About us > [Letters and submissions](#)

E. Valuation Committee

There were no items to report for the period.

F. Appeals Panel

The Appeals Panel (panel) met on September 17, 2021 and approved extending the limitation period for two appeals, based on the appellant's demonstration of good and sufficient reason to the panel's satisfaction. The panel also adjourned an appeal pending receipt of further information from the Pension Corporation.

Interplan committee reports

Municipal plan trustees also represent the board on two standing interplan committees with the other BC public sector pension plan boards (College, Public Service and Teachers' pension boards of trustees); the Interplan Audit and Interplan Trustee Education committees.

G. Interplan Audit Committee

The Interplan Audit Committee helps the four public sector pension boards meet their duties regarding financial administration of the plans.

The board approved the Interplan Audit Committee's 2022-23 funding request to the four pension boards for professional and other expert resources, and for committee education. The amount is to be split equally between the four pension boards.

The board ratified the nomination made by the College Pension Board of Trustees of Carl Fischer for appointment to the Interplan Audit Committee, effective September 1, 2021.

H. Interplan Trustee Education Committee

The Interplan Trustee Education Committee organizes the BC Public Sector Pension Conference (conference) and provides recommendations for updating the board's Trustee Orientation, Mentoring and Education Policy. The conference is an initiative of the College, Municipal, Public Service and Teachers' pension boards and held annually to provide training and information of mutual interest to the four boards.

The Interplan Trustee Education Committee approved holding the 2022 conference virtually.

The Interplan Trustee Education Committee approved the dates and location for the 2023 conference.

Future board meeting dates

The next regular board meeting will take place March 9 and 10, 2022.

The next AGM will be held virtually on Thursday, October 13, 2022. Visit the plan website at mpp.pensionsbc.ca for updates on how to participate. Click About us > Who we are > Municipal Pension Plan > [Annual general meeting](#).

Coming up

Issues for board consideration at future meetings include:

- Asset-liability review
- Initiatives related to implementation of [Strategic Plan June 2020-23](#)
- Actuarial valuation as at December 31, 2021

For comments or questions regarding this report, please contact the Municipal Pension Board of Trustees:

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