



Meeting Highlights September 20, 2022 and November 16, 2022

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

Trustee appointments

Gary Yee will be chair of the board in 2023. Donna Lommer was elected vice chair for 2023 and will be chair in 2024.

The board welcomed new trustee Sara Manchester, replacing Shireen Clark.

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](#).

2023 Cost-of-Living Adjustment

The board approved a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to regular pensions in pay of 6.9 per cent, effective January 1, 2023. This is the equivalent to the increase in the Canadian consumer price index (CPI) between September 2021 and September 2022.

Annual General Meeting

The 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on October 13, 2022 via webcast. The webcast had approximately 400 attendees.

Hilary Brown, board chair, welcomed attendees to the plan's third virtual AGM. Presentations regarding 2021 financial highlights, investments, the recent actuarial valuation report, the Municipal Retiree Benefit Trust, 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 2023 AGM will be held virtually on October 12, 2023.

Net Zero by 2050

The board approved a [goal](#) to change its investment portfolio to net-zero green house gas emissions by 2050. By 2030, the board aims to cut the emissions intensity of its portfolio by 55 per cent from a 2020 baseline.

Read more about the plan's path to net zero by 2050 [here](#). The board will annually review its goal to ensure it remains prudent and aligned with the board's fiduciary duty.

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, including the launch of a new online booking tool for pension planning appointments, and the launch of a new employer website and portal for plan employers.

Plan investments – report from BC Investment Management Corporation

The board received the pension fund performance and strategy report as at June 30, 2022. The market value of the Municipal Pension Fund as at June 30, 2022 was \$68.4 billion. The annualized return for the total plan fund over the five years ended June 30, 2022 was 7.1 per cent, compared to the benchmark of 5.1 per cent.

The board received a report from BCI highlighting achievements for the quarter ended June 30, 2022, including an update on client engagement, and provided input on BCI's Climate Action Plan 2.0.

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 proceeding on exploratory work in support of strategic priority #4, attract and retain members to grow the base. Further information about the board's strategic objectives can be found in the [Strategic Plan June 2020-2023](#).

The board approved plan rule amendment no. 60 to enable a transfer of additional seed funding to the Municipal Retiree Benefit Trust, in accordance with plan partner direction. Information regarding the amendment will be available in a [Board Communiqué](#) (to be published early December).

The board approved one new employer application, two Group 5 (public safety occupation) employer applications, one employer extension application, three employer withdrawal applications, and two employer revocations.

B. Communications and Advocacy Committee

The board approved various communications materials and tactics regarding net zero, plan rule amendment no. 60, and the Actuarial Valuation as at December 31, 2021.

C. Governance Committee

The board approved a budget of \$3.2 million and \$1.6 million for board operations and board office services, respectively, for the fiscal period January 1 to December 31, 2023.

The board approved revisions to its Code of Conduct regarding the board's conflict of interest procedures, the confidentiality provisions and other non-substantive amendments.

D. Investment Committee

There were no items to report for the period.

E. Valuation Committee

The board approved the [Actuarial Valuation Report](#) as at December 31, 2021, and approved removing the sustainable COLA cap, effective January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2025. Further information regarding the valuation results is available in the [Board Communiqué](#).

F. Appeals Panel

The Appeals Panel (panel) met on September 20, 2022 and confirmed that the plan rules were correctly applied by the plan administrative agent in denying the appellant's request to recognize an arrears period under the plan.

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 2023-24 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 Teachers' Pension Board of Trustees of Chris Skillings for appointment to the Interplan Audit Committee, effective September 13, 2022.

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 the dates and location for the 2024 conference.

Future board meeting dates

The next regular board meeting will take place March 14 and 15, 2023.

The next AGM will be held virtually on Thursday, October 12, 2023. 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:

- Initiatives related to implementation of [Strategic Plan June 2020-2023](#)
- Strategic Plan Renewal

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

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