



PENSION ADMINISTRATION ***BULLETIN***

Reference No. 2006-05 (Revised)

Date: October 16, 2006

**TO: All Pension Administration Contact Persons
At Contributing Member Organizations**

Re: Revisions to Past Service Purchase Program

On August 8, 2006, we issued memo 2006-05 titled “Revisions to Past Service Purchase Program”. The memo included an employee bulletin for distribution to employees with their enrolment card and to post as a further notice to members. However, we neglected to include contact information for the Superintendent of Pensions in that attachment. We have corrected this in the attached bulletin and ask that you replace the existing employee bulletin with the attached version for distribution to your employees.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

This memo and attachment is also available on the Plan’s website at www.nsahopensionplan.ca

If you have any questions, please contact us. Thank you.

Attachment – Notice for employees who are Plan Members



ARE YOU A NEW PENSION PLAN MEMBER IN 2006? DO YOU HAVE A PRIOR PERIOD OF SERVICE, THAT YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING? IF YES, THIS NOTICE MAY BE OF INTEREST TO YOU.

Since 2002, active members of the NSAHO Pension Plan have been able to purchase certain periods of past service that had not been credited under the Plan. Many members have asked about the cost of purchasing past service but there have been few actual purchases. Each request for information about past service purchases consumes Plan resources, even when the member decides not to complete the purchase.

To improve the efficiency of our administrative services and to ensure Plan resources are used for the greatest benefit of all members, the Trustees are amending the plan effective December 31, 2006 to streamline the past service purchase rules. After December 31, 2006, only the following types of service purchases will be available:

1. service (including any mandatory waiting period) under another pension plan if you no longer have benefits under that plan. Cost: actuarial cost;
2. service with an NSAHO employer before the employer participated in the NSAHO Pension Plan. Cost: actuarial cost;
3. service that was credited under the NSAHO Pension Plan before an earlier termination of employment if you were re-employed with an NSAHO employer that participates in the Plan within 5 years of your earlier termination. Cost: return of funds paid out plus interest; and
4. approved leaves of absence, layoff and maternity and parental leaves. Cost: actuarial cost.

Service purchase under categories #1, #2 and #3 (if you elected a transfer value upon your earlier termination) must be completed within one year of the date you join the Plan. All purchases are subject to Income Tax Act limits that may result in further restrictions.

The current rules will continue to apply to quotation requests made before December 31, 2006, if you proceed with the purchase on the quoted basis within six months of the date your quotation is provided.

If you have any questions or comments about these changes:

You can contact us:

- Write: NSAHO Pension Plan, 2 Dartmouth Road, Bedford, NS, B4A 2K7
- Telephone: (902) 832-8500 for local calls; 1-866-400-4400 for long distance toll free
- Fax: (902) 832-8506
- E-mail: pastservicepurchases@nsaho.ns.ca

You can contact the Superintendent of Pensions:

Department of Environment and Labour
PO Box 697
5151 Terminal Road
Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 2T8

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