

PENSION ADMINISTRATION **BULLETIN**

Reference No. 2022-02

Date: April 27, 2022

TO: All Pension Administration Contact Persons at Contributing Member Organizations

RE: Nova Scotia Health Employees' Pension Plan – Special Notice re Returning to work after Retirement Policy Extension

As per previous memos, the temporary exemption applicable to NSHEPP pension recipients who returned to the workforce as Temporary Emergency Workers due to the COVID-19 pandemic was set to expire with the lifting of the Provincial State of Emergency. Upon consultation with various stakeholders, this temporary policy was found to be an effective measure and with a continued need to provide support with the ongoing crisis, this temporary exemption has been reinstated with an expiry date of **December 31, 2022**.

To clarify, Employees who meet BOTH of the following criteria are eligible for a temporary exemption from the Plan rules that would require mandatory participation, thereby allowing their monthly pension payments from NSHEPP to continue without interruption, while concurrently receiving earnings from their respective employer.

1. Are currently in receipt of pension payments from NSHEPP, AND
2. Have returned to the workforce as a Temporary Emergency Worker as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic (not necessarily in a role directly related to COVID-19)

This policy is temporary. As confirmed in previous memos, after the policy has expired NSHEPP pension recipients who returned to the workforce as Temporary Emergency Workers and are still employed with a regular schedule of 50% or more on a regularly scheduled basis, will no longer be exempt from mandatory participation. Regular plan rules will become effective and pension recipients who meet the criteria above will be required to re-enroll in the pension plan by March 31, 2023 or within three months of commencing their regularly scheduled employment of 50% or more, if later. Upon re-enrollment, their monthly pension payments will be suspended. We ask that Employers provide 30 days advance notice for Retirees who are being re-enrolled, allowing adequate time to suspend their scheduled monthly pension payments and prevent over-payment.

If you have any questions, please contact any of our staff at 832-8500 or, if calling long distance, at 1-866-400-4400 (Toll Free).

Nova Scotia Health Employees' Pension Plan

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