

Benefits Bulletin – September 11, 2017

OSSTF District 7, Bluewater

Teachers' Bargaining Unit

Stephen Lau, Vice-President

Retirement Planning Workshops

A retirement planning workshop presented by a member of the provincial secretariat from the provincial OSSTF office will be held on Monday, October 23, **only!**

This year's one and only OSSTF TPP workshop will take place at **The Stone Tree** in Owen Sound (318087 Hwy 6 & 10, Owen Sound, N4K 5N6, (519)376-7899) beginning at 5:00 PM and lasting approximately 2½ hours. Light refreshments, both food and beverages (cash bar), will be provided beginning at around 4:30 pm. Members who are within ten years of retirement are encouraged to attend this fascinating presentation into the financial ramifications of retirement.

Interested members are asked to either call our District's Office Manager, Karen Wilson, at 1-800-854-3706, or to e-mail her at osstfd7@eastlink.ca, by October 13 to reserve a spot. SPACE IS LIMITED – DO NOT DELAY!

There will also be a financial/retirement planning workshop presented by OTIP and Educators Financial Group on May 22. Watch for another Benefits Bulletin in the new year with further details about it.

PERUSE YOUR PAY! a.k.a CHECK YOUR CHEQUE!

Members might be surprised to hear of the number of errors that are discovered on a regular and ongoing basis in pay stubs and/or sick leave ledgers.

To help prevent errors, **all** members should check their pay cheques and sick leave ledgers regularly. To do so, since access to this information is online, members must visit the secure Bluewater network access portal at

<https://bwemp.bwdsb.on.ca>

Members must use their regular school network login and password.

One's sick leave ledger can be found by clicking "Employee Services", then "Personal", and then "Absence". Please note, though, that the entries under "Posted Transactions" are **two weeks behind** the current pay period.

Members can find a current chart of payroll deduction codes and their translations as well. From the Home page, click "HR Documents", and then select "iME CodeExplanations EARNING AND DEDUCTION CODES". Scroll through the document until you find the codes for Secondary Teachers on page 7. Members should use this chart in order to ensure that their payroll deductions match the benefits for which they have signed up. Members should immediately report any problems with their pay cheques via BEAM to "Payroll" or call 519-363-2014 and indicate "Payroll" and then "Secondary" to the auto-attendant.

If you are having any trouble whatsoever understanding your pay stub or sick leave ledger, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Problems are more easily solved sooner rather than later. In fact, some problems can never be solved if the wait is too long.



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For more information and to learn about the discounts available to you, including up to 50% off your home insurance*, visit otipinsurance.com/OSSTF-Save or call 1-888-892-4935.

*Restrictions may apply, contact us for details.



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Manulife's App for Smart Devices

Manulife's mobile site and app is available for Group Benefits plan members to enjoy the convenience of submitting claims on the go, wherever they have an internet connection. The app can be downloaded from all app stores for smart devices:

- [Apple App Store](#)SM
- [Google Play](#)TM
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Group Benefits Mobile allows you to:

- Login securely with all personal data encrypted and kept confidential

- Check out the message centre on the home page
- Submit claims right from your smartphone or tablet
- View your most recent claims details

Plan members can access Group Benefits Mobile two ways:

1. Mobile site – Access from any browser on any mobile device. If the desktop site is accessed on a mobile device, plan members will be asked if they would like to continue to the mobile site or the desktop site.

2. Mobile app – Available for download from any app store, the app directs to the mobile site when launched.