

Canadian Blood Services Defined Benefit Pension Plan

Information Sheet for Ontario Active Members, Retired Members and Eligible¹ Former Members

Division of Pension Assets on Marriage Breakdown (Ontario)

What is in this is it important, and what action do you need to take?

- The Ontario Government has enacted legislation governing the process for division of pension assets on marriage breakdown.
- This will be relevant to you if you are dividing assets as a result of marriage breakdown on or after January 1, 2012.

1. **The Basics**

- Pensions are part of family property and can be divided on marriage breakdown.
- The pension does not have to be divided but the value will be taken into account in determining the total value of family property.
- Division of pension assets requires a court order or separation agreement or (effective January 1, 2012) a family arbitration award.

What's new?

- The non-member spouse can have immediate access to the spouse's share of the value of pension (previously the non-member spouse had to wait for the member to terminate employment or retire).
- The Plan Administrator (Morneau Shepell on behalf of the Canadian Blood Services Defined Benefit Pension Plan Trustees) will calculate the value of the pension (previously this was done by an independent valuator) using a methodology prescribed in the legislation.
- Either the member or the non-member spouse can request a calculation of the value of the pension using forms prescribed by the Financial Services Commission of Ontario (FSCO); FSCO is the pension regulator in Ontario.
- The value of the pension will be determined as of the Family Law Valuation Date (FLVD), which is the earliest of:
 - Date of separation
 - Date divorce granted
 - Date marriage annulled
 - For non-married (common law) spouses, date of separation only
- The Plan Administrator will determine the Preliminary Value (PV) of the pension, which

¹ Eligible former members are members who have terminated employment but have left their pension entitlement in the plan, either as a deferred vested entitlement or an amount that may be transferred out at a future date.

is the total value at the FLVD, including any Money Purchase Feature amounts.

- The Plan Administrator will also determine the Imputed Value (IV) of the pension, which is the value of the pension from the date of the marriage or start of common law relationship to the FLVD.

What do you need to do?

- If your marriage breaks down on or after January 1, 2012 you or your non-member spouse can request a calculation of the value of your pension
 - You or your non-member spouse can request the required forms (Form 1, Form 2 and Form 3) by calling the Morneau Shepell – Canadian Blood Services Pension Call Centre at 1 877 252 4442.
 - You should get independent advice on division of family property, including pension, from your legal and/or financial advisors; if you want an advisor or other third party to act on your behalf, you will need to complete Form 3.
- Return your completed form to Morneau Shepell at the address provided to you with the forms you will need to complete.
- If there is an agreement to divide pension assets, your non-member spouse will be able to request a transfer of his/her share of the pension value to a Registered Pension Plan, a Life Income Fund or a locked-in Registered Retirement Savings Plan. The money cannot be left in the Canadian Blood Services Defined Benefit Pension Plan.
- Your pension accrual will be reduced as a result of the transfer.

2. What else do you need to know?

The plan will charge a fee of \$600 for calculating the value of your pension.

What do you need to do?

You or your non-member spouse will need to attach to your application a cheque for \$600 payable to Canadian Blood Services.

3. What happens next?

The calculation of pension value will be sent to you or your non-member spouse when completed.

If you need help or more information contact the Morneau Shepell – Canadian Blood Services Pension Call Centre at 1 877 252 4442.