

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA RETIREES ASSOCIATION

Annual Benefits Committee Report June 2015

The University's introduction of the ONECard, and the opening of the CARSA Building both entailed discussions with the respective departments to clarify the situation for retirees regarding the use of the ONECard to access campus facilities. The gist of the situation to date is that UVRA members who qualify for a ONECard (i.e. former employees who have retired) will continue as before. There is a charge For retirees' membership in CARSA (see vikesrec.ca, under Facilities and Services). For UVRA members without a ONECard, the situation is less positive. Those who have used the McKinnon Gym previously may continue to do so, but new non-UVic members may not be able to. We continue to seek clarification.

Participation in the UVRA-Johnson Extended Health, Dental and Travel insurance policy continues to grow, as it does in the UBC equivalent. Both groups are part of the basic pool of members. There are ongoing negotiations with other BC post-secondary retirees, who would join the same pool, but nothing concrete yet.

As of June 1st, 124 members of UVRA had joined the plan, 74 of whom took the Dental care option. There are 128 Medoc Travel policies in force.

CURAC, the Canadian umbrella organization of post-secondary retiree associations, enquired last fall about the desirability of working towards a national health and dental policy. I have heard nothing further since my counterpart at UBC-APE and I replied that our members seem (to judge by the lack of evidence to the contrary) to be satisfied with their current options. As an aside, the item seemed to derive from the Ontario-Quebec member associations and did not suggest how such a plan would address the differences in the basic coverage provided by provincial government-run policies.

Respectfully submitted
Peter Liddell
Temporarily continuing chair, UVRA Benefits Committee