

University of Victoria Retirees Association

Benefits Committee Report to the 2017 AGM

The UVRA continues to expand on the services and information available to both members and the larger UVic retirement community. Over the past year, discussions with the Tri-Universities group led to the addition of a third Extended Medical/ Dental /Travel Insurance option through CURAC and the Retired Teachers Organization. UVic Retirees can now choose from the UVic-administered Pacific Blue Cross, the UVRA Johnson, and the CURAC RTO plans, depending on the needs of the individual. We continue to provide information without recommendation to those inquiring about the three options. We have been assisted by Human Resources and the Johnson liaison in creating comparative charts of coverage and costs of the three programs. The office volunteers have been extremely helpful in responding to inquiries and referring questions from members and employees about to retire.

The member-only Johnson plan continues to grow. We realized an administrative income of \$7,125 from the following policies:

Extended Health Care - 178

Dental Care – 107

MEDOC travel – 108

UVic continues to support retiree access to the Employee and Family Assistance Program provided to UVic faculty and staff. After many years of working with OPTUM (formerly Interlock), UVic will be changing the service provider to Morneau Shepell, effective June 1. Through a joint initiative with UBC, our employees and retirees will have access to increased services and modalities at a lower cost to the university. We will work with Human Resources to distribute information about Morneau Shepell to our members as it becomes available.

Moving in a new direction for Benefits, we have developed a relationship with Collette Travel, and are able to pass on to our members information about some of the travel services they provide, such as webinars, tours and group leadership opportunities.

The Letter of Understanding, undertaken by the Executive and supported by External Relations, is nearing completion. It will help to clarify the campus services and programs that are available to our various membership groups. The process has been a valuable tool in educating the UVic administration about the many contributions of our members to the campus community, and the importance of maintaining connections to the university.

I would like to thank the Executive members for their diligent work on this project and many others, Mel for continuing to update the Benefits website page, and to Lou and the office group for their wonderful service to our members. Helping individuals with their retirement questions over the past year has been a very rewarding experience.

Respectfully submitted May 24 2017, Winona Pugh