



# pension perspectives

## What steps can you take to plan for your retirement?

### You're invited... to a virtual town hall info session.

The Public Employees Benefits Agency (PEBA), which administers PEPP, is moving to a not-for-profit corporation at arm's length from the Government of Saskatchewan in January 2024.

The online town hall sessions will address what many of you have been asking: *how will this change impact me and my pension?*

Roger Brandvold, Public Employees Pension Board Chair, and Tricia Brown, Director of Policy and Governance for PEBA, will provide members with an overview of the transition and answer questions.

**February 28, 2023**

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**March 1, 2023**

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

To register for the town hall or learn more about the transition, visit the PEPP website. Then, click on the blue box titled [PEBA is transitioning to a not-for-profit corporation.](#)



*An inside look at one couple's retirement planning journey and how they created a retirement plan that works for them.*

We recently spoke to PEPP members, Kelly and Denise Nelson, about their retirement journey, which has taken them on many adventures since retiring in 2021. Here are some of the PEPP member services they used and what they learned along the way.

#### Register for the PEPP workshops

The Nelsons attended the PEPP Retire With Ease workshop (now, called PREPARE) and others over the years. "We started planning early," says Denise. "Because we were always thinking ahead."

Denise believes you can never start too early. "At the workshops, we heard members say they wish they had attended this five or 10 years ago."

Today, PEPP offers four workshops based on age and life stage. Learn more on page 2.

#### Meet with a consultant

Denise and Kelly also spoke to a PEPP Retirement Information Consultant (RIC) many times from age 50 onward. "We looked at different options on where to put our money, for our retirement. It was educational. They helped us create a plan that worked for us."

#### Consider the Variable Pension Benefit (VPB) option

The Nelsons decided to keep their assets in PEPP and convert to the VPB option. "PEPP has a very transparent system," says Kelly. "We could get more information from PEPP compared to our other financial planner." Another factor influencing their decision was PEPP's low administration fees and solid performance record.

#### Start planning early

As for advice to PEPP members just starting their career, Kelly shares: "Realize the value and benefits of PEPP and the impact of the economy and world events on your money."

Denise encourages members to gain financial literacy early on in their

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career. An ideal starting point is PEPP's LEARN workshop, which covers the basics of managing your finances and how your pension fits into your personal financial plan.

### Create a plan for your free time

For members closer to retirement, the Nelsons recommend creating a lifestyle plan along with a financial plan. "Think about what you're going to do the day after you retire, and in the years ahead, because you won't be traveling all the time."

To help, the Nelsons recommend the book, *How to Retire Happy, Wild and Free: Retirement Wisdom That You Won't Get from Your Financial Advisor* by Ernie J. Zelinski. The book focuses on how to enjoy life after work.

We're grateful to Denise and Kelly for sharing their retirement planning journey. Hopefully their story will remind you to seek out PEPP's services when starting your own path to retirement.

### THINKING ABOUT RETIREMENT?

The **PEPP Retirement Planner** is an ideal place to start and complements other PEPP services, such as workshops and individual consultations.

The Planner is a secure, online tool to help you assess your financial projections in your retirement.

The tool walks you through four sections. The more data you include, the more accurate your results may be. While you input your information, the Planner does the calculations and projections for you.

*Want to access the Planner?* Go to [pepp.peba.ca](http://pepp.peba.ca) and click on the **Member login** button. Log in to your online PEPP account. On the PLANet home page, select the **PEPP Retirement Planner** from the **Quick Links** menu.

## Want to improve your financial literacy?

**Start by registering for a member workshop. You won't regret it.**

### Why do we offer workshops?

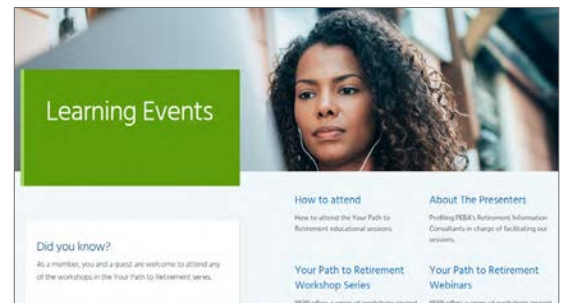
It's simple – to support your financial wellness.

The workshops aim to build your personal financial comfort and confidence over time – whether you're 25 or 85.

To make it easy, PEPP offers the *Your Path to Retirement* series. These free workshops focus on your life stage and include:

- LEARN about your pension plan (*early career*)
- BUILD your retirement plan (*mid-career*)
- PREPARE to retire (*late career*)
- ENJOY your retirement (retirees)

Interested in attending a workshop? For details and to register, go to the **Learning Events** page on the PEPP website.



### One-on-one member consultations

PEPP offers free consultations to members wanting a one-on-one approach on all things PEPP-related. Our Retirement Information Consultants (RICs) can address those financial questions that keep you up at night.

*To book an appointment,* contact our consultants at: 306-787-3170 or email us at: [ric@peba.gov.sk.ca](mailto:ric@peba.gov.sk.ca).

## Ask a Retirement Information Consultant

### Q: What are the benefits of staying with PEPP once I retire?

**A:** Many PEPP members are pleased to hear they can stay with PEPP by choosing PEPP's Variable Pension Benefit (VPB) option. The VPB offers flexibility over when and how much retirement income to withdraw.

Other benefits to staying in the PEPP family include access to:

- the same eight investment funds as PEPP members;
- lower fees than most retail retirement savings products;
- PEPP's member services, such as the PEPP Retirement Planner, one-on-one member consultations, and workshops; and
- your PEPP/VPB account online so you can monitor and manage your account anywhere and anytime.

To learn more about the VPB option, visit the PEPP website.



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