



Overview

Throughout the last few years, there have been several shifting trends in member retirements.

One such trend is a change in the questions asked by members about pension issues; from questions dealing directly with the plan to questions dealing with the many decisions that must be made prior to retiring, during the retiring process and, finally, planning for the retirement years. Planning for retirement is not easily understood by a large number of members.

Another trend is the emphasis by members of all age groups on financial planning for retirement. Saving through pensions, RSP's and other investments throughout a career is an important component of family and life planning. But what is poorly understood by many are the requirements and needs (the reasons for saving) and the related percentage of pre-retirement salary.

The third is the lack of concern with personal planning or getting ready for a significant change in lifestyle. There will be important and far reaching changes in relationships with spouse, family and friends. Activities and "jobs" will be modified greatly and expectations for retirement will be met or lost resulting in feelings ranging from elation to depression.

Attending an Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund (ATRF) planning session (which is only an information session about teacher pensions) is not enough to "plan for retirement". Retirement planning requires much more than just receiving accurate pension plan information.

After school sessions are limited in time to approximately 90 minutes which provides only enough time to "scratch the surface". Planning these limited information sessions is difficult because of scheduling and proximity in very large geographic areas. We hope that this Workshop covers the "big picture" for your retirement including health and lifestyle, benefits, Canada Pension Plan, wills and estate planning and many more topics.

Member needs focus around questions on making the decision, financial considerations, benefit needs, planning for use of time in retirement, spousal considerations, selecting the best options and following the quickest path of least resistance regarding procedures in retirement.

This workshop will cover all of those questions.

Sessions presented using this material invariably end with one comment:
"Why didn't we know this before?"