# University of Windsor Employees' Retirement Plan

## **Understanding Your Annual Pension Statement**





# **Background - Types of Plan Design**

## **Defined Benefit (DB)**

- Pension benefit at retirement based on a formula
- Typically, a function of service and earnings

### Defined Contribution (DC) (or Money Purchase MPP)

- Fixed contributions to an investment account
- Account balance used to provide retirement benefits

## The Employees' Plan is a Defined Benefit Plan



## Basic Features – Employees' Plan Design

## **Defined Benefit Plan Design (DB)**

- Pensionable earnings include base earnings, overtime, vacation pay, shift premium, and weekend premium; excludes sessional stipends
- Pensionable service includes illness or injury absence, paid leaves, maternity/parental/adoption leaves, union leaves, new statutory leaves; excludes unpaid leaves.
- Part time service determined using a ratio of regular hours worked during the period to standard full-time hours of 35
  - Example: 9 month FT = 35/35 x 9/12 = .7500 service per year
  - Example: 12 month PT = 24/35 = .6857 of each year
  - Example: 9 month PT =  $24/35 \times 9/12 = .5143$  of each year



# **Background – Types of Plan Funding**

Fixed Employee Contributions, Fixed University Contributions

Typically defined contribution

Fixed Employee
Contributions,
Variable University
Contributions

Typically defined benefit

Variable Employee
AND University
Contributions

Referred to as a "Cost-sharing" or "Risk-sharing" arrangement



# **Basic Features – Employees' Plan Funding**



Plan Funding is based on "Cost Sharing" with variable employee AND variable University contributions

### **Current contribution formula effective July 1, 2025**

- 8.0% on first \$3,500 of pensionable earnings plus
- 5.6% of the next pensionable earnings up to \$71,300 plus
- 8.0% of any remaining pensionable earnings
- -University matches all regular employee contributions
- -Contributions not used in the monthly pension calculation.

If contributions and investment earnings do not fully fund the plan liabilities, contributions for both the University and the Employees would have to increase. This is determined by an actuarial valuation. Last valuation was performed at July 1, 2024. Next valuation July 1, 2027 at latest.





#### An annual pension statement must provide the following information:

Name of the plan and registration number

Plan statement period

Member name, ID#, birth date, hire date, Plan entry date

Name of spouse and beneficiary

Credited service to date

Earnings used in calculation of monthly pension at Plan year end

Statement of Account including the current year interest rate

Estimated pension earned to Plan year end

Estimated pension projected to Normal Retirement date

Basic information on any government pension entitlements

Normal Form of Pension (Life with a 5 year guarantee)

Early retirement eligibility provisions

Disability benefits (if any)

Vesting (immediate)

Termination options

Pre-retirement death benefit

Financial Position of the Plan & Other Pension Documentation

Discontinuance of the Plan

**Errors and Omissions** 

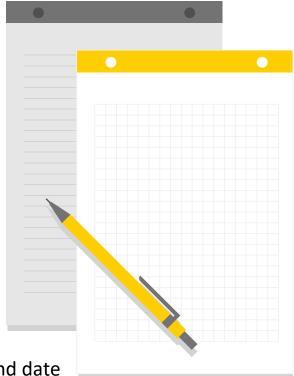


#### Must be issued once per year, within six months of plan year end

- Plan year July 1st through June 30th
- Your annual pension statement is a "snapshot" at a fixed point in time

### **Personal Member Information Section**

- Member name, ID #, date of birth, date of hire, date of Plan entry
- Province of Employment: Ontario
- Normal Retirement Date
  - First day of the month following attainment of age 65
- Date Eligible for Early Retirement
  - Earliest eligible date 10 years prior to NRD
- Spouse, Beneficiary
  - Per Ontario Pension regulations, spouse automatic beneficiary
  - Spouse can waive pre-retirement entitlement via FSRA Form 4
- Best Average Earnings: highest 60 consecutive months pensionable earnings to Plan year end date
- Pensionable Service (years and part years) to Plan year end date
  - Can be affected by part years of service, unpaid leaves, maternity/parental leaves and statutory leaves





# Sample Personal Member Information Section



#### University of Windsor Employees' Retirement Plan Registration Number: 0310573

Annual Pension Benefit Statement for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

This personal Pension Benefit Statement summarizes the main features of your Pension Plan and reports specific details of your position in the Plan at June 30, 2025. This statement has been prepared from information in our pension records, and it should be reviewed carefully and filed for future reference. If you believe any of the information is incorrect, please report this to the Office of Pensions & Benefits, in the Department of Human Resources immediately.

Province: Ontario

Beneficiary(s): JANE STATEMENT

Spouse: JANE STATEMENT

#### Member Information as at June 30, 2025:

Member's Name: JOHN STATEMENT

Employee ID #: 12345

Date of Birth: March 2, 1966
Date of Employment: September 30, 2003

Date of Registration (Plan Entry): January 1, 2004

Normal Retirement Date: April 1, 2031 Best Average Earnings: \$70,967.86

Date Eligible for Early Retirement: April 1, 2021 Pensionable Service: 21.4119 Years



#### **Statement of Accounts Section**

Member Contributions Without Interest balance at last day of prior Plan year

#### **PLUS**

- Member current year contributions
  - Could include contributions on retroactive pays

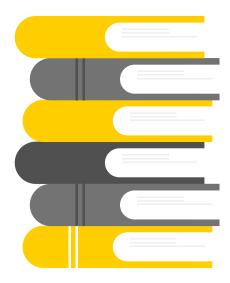
#### **PLUS**

- Credited Interest on prior year and current year contributions
  - Full return rate applied on opening balances and one-half the return applied on current year contributions

#### **EQUALS**

Member Contribution Account balance at last day of statement Plan year

Rate of Credited Interest for statement Plan year is 4.28% (2024/2025)





## **Statement of Accounts Section**

#### Statement of Accounts

	Contributions Without	Credited Interest	Contributions With	Past Service
	Interest		Interest	Contributions
Balance as at June 30, 2024	\$80,641.90	\$15,791.45	\$96,433.35	0.00
Current Year	\$4,454.29	\$4,222.67	\$8,676.96	0.00
Balance as at June 30, 2025	\$85,096.19	\$20,014.12	\$105,110.31	0.00

The rate of credited interest applied to the Account balances for the year ending June 30, 2025 is 4.28%



#### **Retirement Income Projections Section**

Defines the pension benefit formula at retirement



### Estimated Monthly Pension earned to Plan year end date, payable at NRD

- Based on actual pensionable service and best average earnings of your 60 consecutive months at the Plan year end.
- Uses the BAE and Pensionable Service shown on the statement.

#### Estimated Monthly Pension projected to your Normal Retirement Date

- Uses most current base salary if NRD greater than 60 months away, if greater than your accrued 60 months of pensionable earnings
- OR highest 60 months pensionable earnings if NRD is within 60 months
  - Can be combination
    - » i.e. NRD July 1, 2027
    - » Base salary at July 1, 2025 x 2 years plus highest 36 consecutive months pensionable earnings already accrued, if higher than last 60 months pensionable earnings
    - » Various calculations to determine highest average



Estimated Monthly Pension earned as of June 30, 2025, payable at Normal Retirement Date of April 1, 2031 \$1,949.83

## From Sample Pension Statement – Earned to Date

- Calculated BAE at Plan year end = \$70,967.86
- BAYMPE = \$65,320 (best 60 months CPP pensionable earns)
- YOS x [(0.015 x \$65,320) + (0.02 x (\$70,967.86 \$65,320))] / 12 months
- $21.4119 \times (979.80 + 112.96) / 12 = $1,949.83$



Estimated Monthly Pension projected to your Normal Retirement Date of April 1, 2031 \$2,579.41

# From Sample Pension Statement – Earned to Date with Projection to NRD

- Calculated BAE at Plan year end projected to NRD = \$75,184
- YMPE = \$74,160
- YOS x [(0.015 x \$74,160) + (0.02 x (\$75,184-74,160))] / 12 months
- 27.4119 x (1,112.40 + 20.48) / 12 = \$2,587.87 per month payable at age 65, or \$31,054.44 per year
- (small variances are due to the pension system using exact number of days vs. a monthly division)



## Vesting

• Plan provides immediate vesting (ownership) of all member AND employer contributions

## **Termination of Employment**

- Full cash refund option is only available to members with an annual pension of less than 4% of the current YMPE (\$2,852 or \$238 per month)
- In some cases, in lieu of cash (less tax), funds can be transferred to an RRSP providing you have the RRSP available room. Proof of room is required
- Termination estimates can be modelled in the Pension Estimator

### **Pre-Retirement Death Benefit**

- Outlines options for disbursement in the event of your death
- Spouse may elect an immediate or deferred monthly pension
- Spouse may also transfer the value to an RRSP, RRIF on a tax deferred basis, locked-in. Does not affect spousal RRSP room
- Spouse may elect cash less tax
- All other beneficiaries have cash option only (taxable)



### **Financial Position of the Plan**

- Provides details of the financial status of the Plan as of the most recent actuarial valuation as compared to the financial status of the previous valuation year
- Provides an estimate of the financial position at statement date
- Provides information of how Plan surplus (if any) would be distributed or addressed

### **Other Pension Documentation**

- Information required to be disclosed in accordance with the Pension Benefits Act
- Information on the Plan's investment policies and procedures

### **Discontinuance of the Plan**

• Provides details of what happens to the fund assets in the unlikely event of Plan discontinuance

### **Errors and Omissions**

- The Pension Statement in itself is not legally binding
- The University reserves the right to correct any errors in your pension records. These records are used to prepare Annual Pension Statements as well as Pension Estimates in the Planner, and Pension documents on end of employment, retirement or death



# **Employee Pension Plan**

#### Stay tuned....coming in the near future

- Upcoming pension sessions:
  - 1. Using the Pension Estimator Monday, December 8, 2025 9am-11am
  - 2. Choosing Normal and Optional Forms of Pension at Retirement TBD
  - 3. Pre-Retirement Planning Seminar TBD
- Other pension information available on the HR website
  - 1. Pension Plan Text
  - 2. Pension Plan Valuations
  - 3. Pension Plan Financial Statements
  - 4. Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures
  - 5. 2005 2025 Annual Open Pension Meeting presentations
  - 6. FAQ's and more!

Visit www.uwindsor.ca/humanresources/faculty-staff/pensions



# **Thank You For Attending!**



### **Your Pension Administration Team:**

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