

## October 2018 Bulletin from the H&W Trustees

The Trustees of the PPWC – Employer Trusteed Health & Welfare Plan met on October 15<sup>th</sup> and would like to update you on a number of items relating to your group benefit coverage.

### Disability Member Survey

The Trustees would like to remind you that your Plan Administrator should be providing you with a survey to complete regarding your experience once you return from a disability leave. They ask that you complete it to help the Trustees understand the process from the member’s perspective in an effort to continually improve the process.

If you have recently returned from a disability leave and have not received a survey, please reach out to your Plan Administrator and they can provide you with a copy to complete.

### PBC Member Portal

Pacific Blue Cross has recently updated their website. The page that was previously CARESnet is now the Member Portal. Your previous log in information that was used on CARESnet can be used on the Member Portal. If you use Pacific Blue Cross’ application to submit claims or view coverage information, please complete the update to the most recent version of the app on your phone or tablet.

Details about your extended health and dental plans and claims, health and wellness information as well as a pharmacy and insta-claims practitioner finder are available on Pacific Blue Cross’ Member Portal. The Trustees encourage you to sign up for the Member Portal if you have not done so previously and submit eligible claims electronically for faster reimbursement of claims, either on your computer, or on the PBC mobile app on your phone and/or tablet. Please visit the Member Portal site at [www.pac.bluecross.ca](http://www.pac.bluecross.ca) for more information, or download the Pacific Blue Cross mobile app on your phone and/or tablet. Signing up is easy - all you need is your policy number and certificate number and then you create a password.

### PBC Limit to Diabetic Testing Strips

PBC has announced changes to limits on diabetes testing strips effective January 1, 2019 to align with BC Pharmacare guidelines as follows:

Diabetes Treatment Category	Number of Blood Glucose Test Strips allowed within a calendar year
Patients managing diabetes with insulin	3,000
Patients on medications with high risk of causing hypoglycemia	400
Patients on medications with low risk of causing hypoglycemia	200
Patients managing diabetes through diet/lifestyle therapy only (no insulin or diabetes medications)	200

Pacific Blue Cross will be reaching out to current claimants that may fall into the above categories to explain the changes in more detail.

## **Financial Position of the Plan**

PricewaterhouseCoopers has completed their audit of the PPWC – Employer Trusteed Health and Welfare Plan’s 2017 financial statements. The plan continues to be fully funded and the statements will be shared with the local unions and participating employers when finalized.

## **Trustee meeting dates for 2019**

The Trustees established their 2019 meeting dates as follows:

February 21, 2019

June 17, 2019

October 21, 2019