

Facebook Live Script

February 12, 2019 7pm

Good evening and welcome to the first ever OSBCU Facebook Live. My name is Laura Walton and I am the president of the OSBCU – I am here with Rod McGee 1st Vice President and Vicky Evans Secretary Treasurer. We hope everyone is safe and warm in this storm.

We have to apologize on the outset – unfortunately this will not be a bilingual video – however I will be sending the information to Sylvain Piche who will be preparing a video in French for our colleagues.

We wanted to chat with folks in an informal setting as to the LTD working group – what it is, what is happening and what are the next steps. If you have questions type them in and we will try to answer them – if we can't right now we will ensure to get back to you.

Rod: The LTD working group came about during the 2014 round of negotiations. At that time we were hearing from many locals that they were seeing their rates sky rocket. We entered in to Letter of Understanding #7 which established a working group that was tasked with reviewing options related to the sustainability and affordability of LTD plans. It was understood that these options may include

- a) A common plan through a tendering process
- b) Delivery options through a tendering process
- c) Reviewing Joint Proposals from local boards and units to effect changes to LTD plan design to reduce costs.

The group was able to release a Request for Proposal in June 2018 and selected Great West Life as the successful company.

Laura: We wanted to be clear, the OSBCU is not taking over your LTD plans. This is not like the Education Workers Benefit Trust. What we have been able to do is secure a provider who is willing to provide a more competitive rate and rate guarantee because we have created a common buy. This is simply a possible change of service providers. There will be no changes in benefit level.

There are 3 main groups regarding LTD – and we wanted to share how this will impact each one

Rod: Your LTD plan is owned or sponsored by your employer. In many of our local agreements allow the employers to change service providers already. The OSBCU will be providing your local leadership will be setting up a meeting with your employer to discuss what the employer intends to do. We as the OSBCU will be providing your presidents with a list of questions to ask in order to get information as it pertains to your local

Laura: Your LTD plan is owned or sponsored by your local union. Your local leadership needs to contact Great West Life to discuss the new rates and guarantee and the impact on your plan. As per your local guidelines and perhaps bylaws, your local may choose to change service providers or use the Great West Life rates as a negotiation tool with your existing provider to reduce their rates if you do not wish to transition.

We also have folks that currently do not have LTD coverage. We are currently setting up a meeting with Eckler and Great West Life to determine how coverage could be offered to folks in this situation. Please watch for further details.

Following this Facebook Live we will be issuing a brief bulletin, reviewing the information shared here.

We have come to the end of our first Facebook Live – if you enjoyed this format – let us know. If you have any suggestions for future Facebook Lives or other topics you want us to chat about let us know.

Until then – hope everyone is safe and warm! Chat soon!