



## Westcoast Watch!



### Edition 2004-01

## New Government Benefit Amounts (CPP & OAS) Effective January 1, 2004

January 2004

### Government Plans

For 2004, highlights of changes in CPP (“Canada Pension Plan”) and Old Age Security (“OAS”) are:

- the Year’s Maximum Pensionable Earnings (“YMPE”) is \$40,500;
- the maximum CPP pension is \$9,770.00 per year (\$814.17 per month) for retirement in 2004;
- the employee and employer each contributes 4.95% of earnings between \$3,500 (the Year’s Basic Exemption, or “YBE”) and the YMPE. The maximum CPP employee / employer contribution is \$1,831.50 each
- the maximum OAS pension is \$462.47 per month for the first quarter of 2003.

Details on benefit amounts and changes from previous amounts are summarized below:

### CPP (Canada Pension Plan) Summary

<b>Type of Benefits</b>	<b>New 2004 Maximum Rates</b>	<b>Old 2003 Maximum Rates</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Retirement (at age 65)	\$814.17	\$801.25	1.6%
Disability	\$992.80	\$971.26	2.2%
Survivors - under age 65	\$454.42	\$444.96	2.1%
- age 65 & over	\$488.50	\$480.75	1.6%
Children of Disabled Contributor	\$192.68	\$186.71	3.2%
Children of Deceased Contributor	\$192.68	\$186.71	3.2%
Death (lump sum)	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	0.0%
<b>Other Information &amp; Statistics</b>			
Year’s Maximum Pensionable Earnings (YMPE)	\$40,500.00	\$39,900.00	1.5%
Year’s Basic Exemption (YBE)	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	0.0%
Employee / Employer Contribution Rate	4.95%	4.95%	0.0%

**OAS (Old Age Security) Summary**

<b>Type of Benefits</b>	<b>New 2004 1<sup>st</sup> Q Maximum Rates</b>	<b>Old 2003 4<sup>th</sup> Q Maximum Rates</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Old Age Security Pension	\$462.47	\$461.55	0.2%
Guaranteed Income Supplement			
◆ Single	\$549.63	\$548.53	0.2%
Spouse / Common-law partner of			
◆ a Non-Pensioner	\$549.63	\$548.53	0.2%
◆ a Pensioner	\$358.01	\$357.30	0.2%
◆ an Allowance Recipient	\$358.01	\$357.30	0.2%
The Allowance			
◆ Regular	\$820.48	\$818.85	0.2%
◆ Survivor	\$905.83	\$904.03	0.2%

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