

2017 Government Benefits Update

Westcoast Actuaries Inc. (WAI) is pleased to present the Government Benefits Update for 2017. It is designed to provide our clients and business partners with a handy reference of government benefit programs, income tax retirement savings and pension limits.

Canada/Québec Pension Plan (CPP/QPP)

Benefits	2017	2016
Maximum Retirement Pension at Age 65	\$1,114.17	\$1,092.50
Maximum Lump Sum Death Benefit	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Disability Benefits	CPP/QPP	CPP/QPP
➤ Formula for Benefit – Flat Amount (Monthly)	\$478.03/\$478.00	\$471.43/\$471.40
➤ Maximum Benefit (Monthly)	\$1,313.66/\$1,313.63	\$1,290.81/\$1,290.78
➤ Child Benefit (Monthly Amount Per Child)	\$241.02/\$76.52	\$237.69/\$75.46
Orphan Benefit (Per Child)	\$241.02	\$237.69
Survivor Pension (Maximum, Age 65 & Over)	\$668.50	\$655.50
Survivor Pension (Maximum, Under Age 65)		
➤ CPP	\$604.32	\$593.62
➤ QPP – Age 45 to 64	\$895.81	\$881.09
➤ QPP – Under Age 45 – Not Disabled, No Child	\$540.23	\$530.42
➤ QPP – Under Age 45 - Not Disabled, With Child	\$861.64	\$847.39
➤ QPP – Under age 45 - Disabled	\$895.81	\$881.09
Contributions	2017	2016
Year's Maximum Pensionable Earnings (YMPE)	\$55,300	\$54,900
Year's Basic Exemption (YBE)	\$3,500	\$3,500
CPP Employee / Employer Contribution Rate	4.95%	4.95%
QPP Employee / Employer Contribution Rate	5.4%	5.325%
CPP Maximum Employee / Employer Contribution	\$2,564.10	\$2,544.30
QPP Maximum Employee / Employer Contribution	\$2,797.20	\$2,737.05

Old Age Security (OAS)

Benefits	2017	2016
Maximum Monthly Benefit at January 1	\$578.53	\$570.52
Lower Income Threshold for OAS Clawback ⁽¹⁾	\$74,788	\$73,756
Upper Income Threshold for OAS Clawback ⁽¹⁾	\$121,071	\$119,398

⁽¹⁾ Clawback is 15% of income in excess of Lower Income Threshold. The OAS benefits are fully clawed back at the Upper Income Threshold.

Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)

Maximum Monthly GIS and Allowance⁽²⁾	2017	2016
GIS for Single Person	\$864.09	\$773.60
GIS for Pensioner with Spouse Also Receiving OAS	\$520.17	\$512.96
Spousal Allowance	\$1,098.70	\$1,083.48
Allowance for Survivor	\$1,309.67	\$1,213.00

⁽²⁾ Subject to income test and tax-free.

Employment Insurance (EI)

Benefits	2017	2016
Benefit Rate (as a % of Insurable Earnings)	55%	55%
Maximum Insurable Earnings (Annual)	\$51,300	\$50,800
Maximum Benefit (Weekly)	\$543	\$537
Employee Premium	Canada/Québec	Canada/Québec
Rate as a % of Insurable Earnings	1.63%/1.27%	1.88%/1.52%
Maximum Annual Dollar Amount	\$836.19/\$651.51	\$955.04/\$772.16
Employer Premium	Canada/Québec	Canada/Québec
Rate as a % of Insurable Earnings		
➤ Without Registered WLRP ⁽³⁾	2.282%/1.778%	2.632%/2.128%
➤ With Registered WLRP ⁽³⁾	2.077%/1.572%	2.436%/1.932%
Maximum Annual Dollar Amount		
➤ Without Registered WLRP ⁽³⁾	\$1,170.67/\$912.11	\$1,337.06/\$1,081.02
➤ With Registered WLRP ⁽³⁾	\$1,065.31/\$806.44	\$1,237.74/\$981.41

⁽³⁾ WLRP = Wage Loss Replacement Plan, a qualifying insured or self-insured short-term disability plan.

Income Tax Retirement Savings and Pension Limits

	2017	2016
Maximum TFSA Contribution	\$5,500	\$5,500
Maximum RRSP Contribution	\$26,010	\$25,370
Maximum Defined Contribution Pension Plan Contribution	\$26,230	\$26,010
Maximum Deferred Profit Sharing Plan (DPSP) Contribution	\$13,115	\$13,005
Maximum Employee Contribution to Defined Benefit Plan	\$18,941	\$18,787
Maximum Pension Limit for Defined Benefit Pension Plan ⁽⁴⁾	\$2,914.44	\$2,890.00

⁽⁴⁾ Annual pension per year of pensionable service.

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