



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 17, 2019

### **Plan awards full cost of living adjustment, nets positive returns amid uncertain financial markets**

Fredericton, New Brunswick - The Board of Trustees of the New Brunswick Public Service Pension Plan (NBPSPP) is pleased to announce that it has been able to provide its 39,000 members with a full cost of living adjustment (COLA) for the 7<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. The Board has been able to award full COLA every year since the NBPSPP's conversion. Based on Canada's Consumer Price Index, this year's COLA is 2.12%. This adjustment is applied to the benefits of every Plan member, whether they are actively employed, retired, or have chosen to defer their pension. The increase helps ensure members' current and future pension benefits reflect the increase in today's cost of living.

The announcement was made by the chair of the Board of Trustees, Marilyn Quinn, after she and the Board reviewed the pension plan's financial position, along with the results of a series of independent risk management tests as required by the Plan's Funding Policy to determine the financial health of the Plan.

"We are very pleased to once again provide the full cost of living adjustment to all of our members. This is especially significant as 2018 proved to be a tumultuous year for global financial markets," Quinn said. "The continued success of the New Brunswick Public Service Pension Plan in these unstable markets is a testament to our long-term lower risk investment strategy. The Fund also continues to exceed risk management goals, providing continued reassurance of the long-term sustainability of the Plan."

The Plan's assets, managed by Vestcor, saw an investment return of 1.75% (gross of investment management fees), exceeding the performance benchmark of 0.64% and yielding \$132.3 million in net investment income being added to the Plan.

Additional information can be found in the Plan's 2018 Annual Report now available at [vestcor.org/NBPSPP2018](http://vestcor.org/NBPSPP2018). These results will be discussed in more detail at the NBPSPP's Annual Information Meeting being held in Fredericton on Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. The meeting will also be broadcast online. Visit [vestcor.org/nbpspp-meeting2019](http://vestcor.org/nbpspp-meeting2019) for event details.

The NBPSPP Board is currently comprised of nine trustees (one vacancy) and two observers. Four trustees have been appointed by Unions and five have been appointed by the Provincial Government.

The trustees and observers are:

- Marilyn Quinn, Chair – Retired Registered Nurse and past president of the New Brunswick Nurses Union
- Leonard Lee-White, Vice-Chair – Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance and Treasury Board, Treasury Division



- Denise Pinette, Trustee – Financial Liaison Officer, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
- Katherine Greenbank, Trustee – Retired Corporate Director, Service New Brunswick
- Mark Gaudet, Trustee – Assistant Deputy Minister responsible for Strategic Services, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure
- Ross Galbraith, Trustee – Business Manager of Local 37 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
- Sébastien Deschênes, Trustee – Dean of the Faculty of Administration of the Université de Moncton and professor of accounting
- Susie Proulx-Daigle, Trustee – President of the New Brunswick Union and National Vice-President for the National Union of Public and General Employees
- Odette Robichaud, Trustee – Retired Court Stenographer and Past President of the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 1840 and executive board member of CUPE New Brunswick Division
- Leigh Sprague, Observer – Legal counsel for the New Brunswick Union
- William Murray, Observer – Facilities Supervisor with the New Brunswick Community College (Moncton)

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For further information, contact:

**Marilyn Quinn**

Chair, Board of Trustees

New Brunswick Public Service Pension Plan

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