



# Halifax Regional Municipality Pension Plan

## NOTICE TO MEMBERS – 2014 PLAN AMENDMENTS

Please be advised that four amendments were made to the Halifax Regional Municipality Pension Plan (the “Plan”) in 2014. The Plan Text amendments were technical in nature and do not impact plan member benefits. You will find below a short description of each plan amendment. Copies of the amendments which show the updated wording in the Plan Text can be found on our website, [www.hrmpensionplan.ca](http://www.hrmpensionplan.ca) (click on ‘About Us’ and ‘Plan Information’).

### Amendment 2014-01 – Annual General Meeting

The Plan Text has been updated to clarify that the Annual General Meeting is not a regular Pension Committee meeting. Rather, it is a meeting open to all plan members to provide information on the Plan and an update on the previous year’s performance. Notice of the time and place of the meeting will be given to plan members at least ten days in advance.

### Amendment 2014-02 – Actuarial Equivalent Early Retirement Reduction

The HRM Pension Plan provides for a specific early retirement reduction (0.5% per month for each month the member retires early). The Plan Text has been updated to show that the early retirement reduction cannot result in a pension that is less than the actuarial equivalent of the plan member’s unreduced pension, as required under the Nova Scotia Pension Benefits Act. Pensions payable at different dates are actuarially equivalent when they have the same commuted value (lump sum present value), calculated using appropriate actuarial assumptions.

### Amendment 2014-03 – Beneficiary Designation

The Plan Text has been updated so that plan members participating under all divisions may designate a beneficiary to receive any benefits payable from the Plan in the event of their death. Previously, some of the death benefits payable under prior plan divisions (Halifax County Municipality, City of Halifax and Metropolitan Authority) could only be paid to the plan member’s estate if the member did not have a spouse or common law partner.

### Amendment 2014-04 – Transfers from other Registered Pension Plans

A section of the Plan Text states that the Plan may accept a transfer of funds from the registered pension plan of a plan member’s former employer. This section was updated to confirm that the funds would be used to purchase service which was credited under the former employer’s pension plan. This change was made to provide administrative clarity.

We encourage you to contact the HRM Pension Office if you have any questions about these amendments or any other questions related to the Plan. We have a dedicated Member Services team who can provide you with important information about your benefits and address any of your concerns. Please feel free to contact us by mail, phone, fax or email. We hope you will find the website to be a valuable source of information on the Plan.

**Address:** HRM Pension Plan  
1809 Barrington Street  
Suite 804, CIBC Building  
Halifax, NS B3J 3K8

**Phone (Local):** 902-490-6213  
**Phone (Toll-Free):** 1-888-490-6213  
**Fax:** 902-490-5597  
**Email:** [HRMpension@halifax.ca](mailto:HRMpension@halifax.ca)  
**Website:** [www.hrmpensionplan.ca](http://www.hrmpensionplan.ca)