

# INFORMATION SHEET

## Pension Options - Member With a Spouse

This Information Sheet applies to you if, on the date your pension commences, you have a spouse as defined by the Universities Academic Pension Plan (UAPP), and they have not signed a valid *Pension Partner Waiver of Entitlement to a Death Benefit After Pension Commencement from a Pension Plan* form in the 90-day period before your pension commences.

Before commencing receipt of your pension from UAPP, you must make an important choice about the form of pension you will receive. All the optional forms of pension available to you provide a pension for your lifetime, and all optional forms of pension have the same actuarial value. However, each optional form provides a different monthly benefit to reflect the different survivor benefits payable after your death.

If you have a spouse, spousal protection rules require that you choose a form of pension that provides a lifetime pension to your spouse in the event they outlive you. If your spouse wishes to waive the right to a survivor pension, they can do so by signing a *Pension Partner Waiver of Entitlement to a Death Benefit After Pension Commencement from a Pension Plan* form during the 90-day period before your pension commences.

If your spouse waives their right to a survivor pension, you will be treated as a single member (see the Information Sheet *Pension Options-Member Without a Spouse*).

If there is a Family Property Order (FPO) affecting your UAPP pension, your choice of pension option may be limited by that Order. If you have any question whether you have a spouse as defined by UAPP, or have questions about how the FPO affects your pension options, please contact UAPP toll-free at 1.888.339.1546 (toll-free within North America) or 1.780.612.4259 (collect, outside North America).

### DEFINITION OF SPOUSE

Persons are partners on any date on which one of the following applies:

- (i) married to each other and have not been living separate and apart from each other for a continuous period longer than 3 years
- (ii) if clause (i) does not apply, a person who has lived with that member or former member in a marriage-like relationship
  - (A) for a continuous period of at least 3 years preceding the date, or
  - (B) of some permanence, if there is a child of the relationship by birth or adoption.

# INFORMATION SHEET

## Pension Options - Member With a Spouse

### ***NORMAL FORM OF PENSION – MEMBER WITH A SPOUSE***

A pension in the "normal form" will be the amount calculated from the pension formula. Since you have a spouse, your normal form of pension is:

Service Period	Normal Form of Pension
For service before 1994	A pension payable for your lifetime, or for a period of 15 years, whichever is longer.
For service after 1993	A pension payable for your lifetime, and if your spouse is still alive when you die, he or she will receive a pension equal to 2/3 of your pension for the rest of his or her life.

If you have pensionable service before and after January 1, 1994, you must choose the same pension option for both periods. Based on your choice from among the options described below, one or both portions of your pension will be converted from the normal form to your chosen form.

### ***OPTIONAL FORMS OF PENSION – MEMBER WITH A SPOUSE***

#### **■ *JOINT LIFE PENSION – 2/3 SPOUSAL***

- This pension is payable monthly for as long as you live. After your death, 2/3 of the pension you were receiving will be paid to your surviving spouse for their lifetime.

#### **■ *JOINT LIFE PENSION – 2/3 SPOUSAL AND GUARANTEED FOR 10 YEARS***

- This pension is payable monthly for as long as you live. After your death, 2/3 of the pension you were receiving will be paid to your surviving spouse for their lifetime. If both you and your spouse die before receiving at least 10 years of payments (120 monthly payments), the lump sum benefit of the remaining 10 years of payments will be paid to your (or your spouse's) designated beneficiary (or estate).

#### **■ *JOINT LIFE PENSION – 100% SPOUSAL***

- This pension is payable monthly for as long as you live. After your death, the amount of pension you were receiving will continue to your surviving spouse for their lifetime.

#### **■ *JOINT LIFE PENSION – 100% SPOUSAL AND GUARANTEED FOR 10 YEARS***

- This pension is payable monthly for as long as you live. After your death, the amount of pension you were receiving will continue to your surviving spouse for their lifetime. If you and your spouse both die before receiving at least 10 years of payments (120 monthly payments), the lump sum benefit of the remaining payments will be paid to your (or your spouse's) designated beneficiary (or estate).

# INFORMATION SHEET

## Pension Options - Member With a Spouse

### **DECISION IS BINDING**

Please note that your decision regarding any option cannot be changed once your UAPP pension has commenced or payment made. You may want to consult an independent professional before making a decision.

If you are separated or divorced and have had a Family Property Order filed with the Court and with UAPP, your choice may be limited by that Order.

### **NOTICE OF RETIREMENT**

When you decide to commence your pension, you should advise your employer as early as possible (ideally, at least 90 days before retirement date) so that the relevant documentation and processes can be started in time for your retirement date. Having documents such as birth and marriage certificates (for you and your spouse) and any other documents such as proof of common-law relationship, etc. helps expedite the processing of retirement applications.

If you are no longer employed by a UAPP participating employer and have decided to commence your pension, please contact UAPP at 1.888.339.1546 (toll-free within North America) or 1.780.612.4259 (collect, outside North America), or, send your written notice to UAPP, #1850, 10303 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3N6.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE TO THE READER:**

This Information Sheet is designed as a quick summary of the subject. Should anything in this Information Sheet conflict with the UAPP Sponsorship and Trust Agreement, or any applicable provincial or federal legislation, the Agreement and/or the legislation shall apply.

#### **NEED MORE INFORMATION?**

Call UAPP at 1.888.339.1546 (toll-free within North America) or 1.780.612.4259 (collect, outside North America) if you have further questions. Information Sheets on other pension topics are available on the UAPP's website at [www.uapp.ca](http://www.uapp.ca) (under Publications).