

# THE EDMONTON PIPE INDUSTRY

## HEALTH, WELFARE & PENSION TRUST FUNDS

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June, 2016

**To: All Members of The Edmonton Pipe Industry Health & Welfare Plan**

**Re: Important Changes to Your Benefit Plan**

Dear Plan Member,

The Board of Trustees wishes to advise you of the following important changes to your Benefit Plan:

1. Effective with prescriptions filled on or after July 1, 2016 all new prescriptions for drugs with a lower cost alternative (LCA) will have the LCA price applied to the claim. Usually the LCA is a generic drug. The generic drug will be equal to the brand name drug in its active chemical ingredients.

**Members and dependants currently taking a drug with a LCA will have the coverage for the higher cost drug continue until such time as the course of treatment is complete.**

For those not able to take a drug where there is a LCA available (for reasons such as an allergic reaction), reimbursement for the higher cost drug may be approved after the Plan and its pharmacy specialists have reviewed the details.

This change helps the Plan by ensuring that the Plan continues to pay for prescription drugs that are medically necessary and that have a reasonable cost. Members are encouraged to speak with their physician in order to obtain medical advice concerning the merits and cost savings of generic drugs.

2. Effective with eligible dental services rendered on or after July 1, 2016, reimbursement will be made on the basis of 2015 Alberta Dental Fee Guide Proxy. The Plan currently reimburses dental expenses based on the 2014 Alberta Fee Guide Proxy.

Best Regards,

**The Board of Trustees**