

Notice to Members of the Pension Plan for Support Staff

The Pension Committees of the Pension Plan for Support Staff ("Support Staff Plan") and the Pension Plan for Faculty and Administrative Staff of Saint Mary's University ("Faculty and Administrative Plan") are pleased to inform you that effective **June 1, 2007**, the pension plans will be consolidated to form a unified pension plan, the **Saint Mary's University Pension Plan**.

All current members of the Support Staff Plan and the Faculty and Administrative Plan will participate in the Saint Mary's University Pension Plan for their service on and after June 1, 2007. All benefits accumulated under the Support Staff Plan and the Faculty and Administrative Plan will be fully protected and will become benefits under the consolidated plan.

The Saint Mary's University Pension Plan will continue under the legal registration number originally assigned to the Faculty and Administrative Plan. Account balances of members of the Support Staff Plan accumulated up to June 1, 2007, will be officially transferred to the consolidated pension plan once these changes are formally approved by the NS Superintendent of Pensions. We expect the approval process will take several months. During that period you can access information about your account and make changes in the same way you currently do.

At the time your account balance is transferred to the consolidated plan, there will be a two or three-day period during which you will not be able to make changes affecting the balance being transferred. You will receive a separate notice to let you know when that will occur. When the transfer is completed, the personal rate of return ("PROR") indicated on your statement for the transferred amount will likely be re-set, meaning it will not include the history of your PROR before the transfer date for that part of your account. You should keep copies of your old account statements if you want to maintain a record of your past PROR.

Contribution rates and benefit terms and conditions will not change as a result of this consolidation. Investment choices you have made for your benefits will also be preserved under the new arrangement. Any changes you wish to make to your individual account in the future will be made the same way as in the past - through our pension plan service provider, Sun Life.

The consolidation of the University's pension plans represents an opportunity to simplify the administration of pension arrangements and to improve coordination of pension services and communications to pension plan members. This consolidation of plans has been approved by all decision-makers in the pension plan governance structure, including the Pension Committees of the Support Staff Plan and the Faculty and Administrative Plan.

If you have any questions about the consolidation of the pension plans or about your pension participation generally, please contact Janine Rose at 420-5044. You can also access pension plan information at www.smu.ca/administration/hr/pension.html on the Saint Mary's Human Resources website.

Detailed information about the plan and your account is available through the Sun Life Plan Member website. To access it, sign in to www.sunlife.ca/member with your Access ID and Password. You can also contact Sun Life's Customer Care Centre at 1-866-733-8612. Customer Care Centre representatives are available every business day from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Atlantic Time.