



STRP UPDATE

FINANCIAL LITERACY RESOURCES

The Saskatchewan Teachers' Retirement Plan is managed by a team of pension experts, but did you know that there are many online resources to help you manage your own finances? We've explored many of the options available and we want to share them with you! A great place to start is the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada's [Your Financial Toolkit](#). It's a free, 12-module course that you can take at your own pace. The modules, which can be completed in any order you choose, cover the following topics:

- Income, expenses and budget
- Banking
- Saving
- Credit and debt management
- Mortgages
- Insurance
- Investing
- Income taxes and contributions
- Income taxes and contributions Quebec
- Retirement and pensions
- Financial planning
- Fraud protection

The modules feature interactive tools to help you figure out your personal circumstances and needs. For example, the Retirement and pensions module has:

- ✓ Calculators to estimate your retirement income and budget.
- ✓ Videos with helpful tips for retirement saving and planning.
- ✓ A retirement planner to help you and your family map out your future.
- ✓ An action plan with steps to track your progress.

It reminds you that it's never too soon to start preparing for your life after teaching and gives plenty of information on how to plan for a comfortable future.

Watch our future STRP Updates for more information around financial literacy resources and how to improve your financial wellness!

FINANCIAL TIP

Your income-earning years only last one-half to two-thirds of your adult life, so the income you earn today needs to cover the present and your retirement. Consider making a rule that saves

a proportion of your income for later. You can save additional money through voluntary contributions to the STRP, or consider using an RRSP, TSFA or other savings vehicle.



WHICH SAVINGS OPTION IS BEST FOR ME?

Not sure which savings account is best for you? Let's take a closer look at each of them.

	STRP VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS	RRSP	TSFA
Primary Use	Saving for retirement.	Saving for retirement.	Saving for any purpose.
2024 Contribution Limits	Difference between 18% of your estimated 2024 earnings, and the value of pension you are earning in 2024.	18% of your earned income on your 2023 tax return, less the value of pension you earned in 2023.	\$7,000
Unused Contribution Room	Carries forward as RRSP room.	Carries forward.	Carries forward.
Tax Benefit	Contributions are tax-deductible.	Contributions are tax-deductible.	Contributions are after-tax.
Withdrawals	Cannot be withdrawn until termination from teaching, or retirement. Withdrawals are taxed as income.	May be withdrawn at any time but you do not get your contribution room back. Withdrawals are taxed as income.	May be withdrawn at any time and contribution room is restored. Withdrawals are not taxed.
Plan Maturity	Retirement, or the end of the year in which you turn 71. At retirement, funds can be transferred into an RRSP until age 71 if desired.	The end of the year in which you turn 71.	No age limits.



STRP STATS

(AS OF JUNE 30, 2023)

MEMBERSHIP TOTAL **29,341**

INACTIVE MEMBERS

8,922 TOTAL

974
prior plan deferred

247
deferred

7,701
inactives

ACTIVE MEMBERS

15,666 TOTAL

41.6 YEARS
average age

RETIRED MEMBERS/SURVIVORS

4,753 TOTAL

58 YEARS
average retirement age

\$3,402
average monthly pension

STRP REMAINS FINANCIALLY HEALTHY

Another valuation has been completed for the STRP as at July 1, 2023. The plan is still financially stable, healthy and fully funded. As a result, conditional increases were approved for 2024, for both active and retired members. These increases will help STRP continue to provide meaningful pensions for our plan members.



STRP PENSION ESTIMATOR CAN HELP WITH RETIREMENT PLANNING!

Have you checked out our STRP Pension Estimator? It's an easy-to-use tool that can help you estimate your monthly pension and help inform your decisions around your career and your retirement. You can use it to assess how your pension may change in a number of different scenarios, such as:

- You have a baby and want to purchase service for a parental leave.
- You want to work part time.
- You retire early and do not qualify for an unreduced pension.
- You have a spouse when you retire.
- You choose income smoothing at retirement.

You can access the STRP Pension Estimator by logging into MySTF and visiting the [Pension Plan](#) page. Keep in mind that this tool only provides estimates. If you're within 12 months of your expected retirement date, please contact the STRP to request a retirement package which will include a formal pension estimate.



REMINDER: IMPORTANT CHANGES COMING TO YOUR PENSION PLAN

In case you missed it previously, four changes will be coming into effect on July 1, 2024, that will improve equity among STRP members. They will also affect your pension benefit, so it's important to understand them. Here are the highlights:

- 1** The STRP will be changing to a flat accrual rate formula that will see members earn a pension of 1.6% on all pensionable earnings. Contribution rates will also change to a flat rate of 10.0% of all earnings.
- 2** All eligible substitute teachers will receive future conditional upgrades that are granted by the Plan. To be eligible, a substitute teacher must have worked a minimum of 20 days of eligibility service in that Plan year or the immediately preceding Plan year.
- 3** The STRP will be doubling the interest-free period for parental and compassionate leave purchases (from one year to two years following the end of your leave). Retroactive interest will also be eliminated if you purchase your leave after the interest-free period ends.
- 4** A rarely used death benefit option that gives dependent children and dependent parents an additional benefit if the member passes away before retirement, with at least eight years of service, is being removed.

If you would like more information about these changes and how they will affect you, please visit [Important Changes Coming to Your Pension Plan](#) or contact the STRP by phone at 1-800-667-7762 or by email at stpr@stf.sk.ca.



WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN THE UPDATE?




Have suggestions for content in this newsletter? Our communications person wants to know! Send them a message at stfcommunications@stf.sk.ca.



SASKATCHEWAN
TEACHERS'
FEDERATION

STRP UPDATE

Need more information? Contact us at:

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This publication contains general information only. In the event of any discrepancy in interpretation, error or omission, the applicable legislation and Plan Text are the final authority.

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