# member mews

# Your beneficiary nomination options are expanded.

You may now have expanded options for whom you can nominate as your beneficiary for pension purposes and how you can make that nomination. Good news: these changes will give you more flexibility and control over what happens to your pension entitlement in the event of your death.

Your pension is a valuable and important benefit for those left behind after your death. As a result of these changes, you now have more options to protect your family, leave a legacy to your community and customize your estate planning the way you want.

## Do I need to do anything?

**Municipal Pension Plan** 

You are not required to do anything—your existing nomination will remain valid, though the options available have expanded. In some cases your choice may be limited, since your spouse is automatically your beneficiary unless they have waived their rights to any pension benefits. You may be able to:

- name multiple and/or alternate beneficiaries to receive your pension benefit in the event of your death,
- provide different shares to those beneficiaries,
- name beneficiaries for your Municipal Pension Plan benefits in your will,
- name a trustee to receive and manage your pension benefit on behalf of minors or individuals who are unable to act on their own, and
- nominate an organization, such as a charity or a trust, as a beneficiary.
   If you are a retired member, these changes only apply if you selected a guarantee period as part of your pension option, and only if that guarantee benefit has not expired.

Log on to My Account at mpp.pensionsbc.ca to confirm your current beneficiary nomination, by viewing your personal information screen or your most recent *Member's Benefit Statement*. If you have not already retired, you will also be able to nominate beneficiaries by using My Account as of April 28, 2014.

### How do I nominate?

- As a member, you also have access to the new *Nomination of Beneficiary* form, available on the Plan's website. The new publication *Protecting your Pension Benefit: A Guide for Nominating Beneficiaries before Retiring* will help you understand the options that may be available.
- If you are planning on retiring in the near future or have already retired, consult *Protecting your Pension Benefit: A Guide for Nominating Beneficiaries when Retiring.* This publication will help you understand the options that may be available if you are completing a *Nomination of Beneficiary (at Retirement)* form.

Since everyone's circumstances are unique, you are strongly encouraged to consult your financial advisor, estate planner and/or lawyer to determine the options that are best for you. As always, the Municipal Pension Plan is also here to help you understand your options. A variety of other resources and publications can also be found on our website at mpp.pensionsbc.ca.

### **Municipal Pension Plan**

PO Box 9460 Victoria, BC V8W 9V8 MPP@pensionsbc.ca

Fax:

Victoria: 250 953-3000 Toll-free: (Canada and U.S.)

1 800 668-6335 250 953-0421