



A NEW VISION OF AGING FOR CANADA

June 3, 2013

Dear Ministers of Finance:

Re: Please proceed on CPP enhancement at June meeting of FPT Finance Ministers

CARP members are calling on you to take action on enhancing the Canada Pension Plan to address Canada's retirement insecurity. At the upcoming meeting of federal, provincial and territorial finance ministers, you have the opportunity of agreeing to an amendment of the CPP to increase the benefit and/or coverage of the Plan since by our calculation, enough of the provinces agree with at least a modest CPP enhancement stipulated after your June 2010 meeting. Only the federal government's consent should now be required.

You may recall that CARP raised with you in 2009 the need for a universal supplementary pension plan that would be universally accessible and affordable, modeled on the CPP with employer contributions, payroll deductions, large pooled risk fund, professional management and target/defined benefits.

Since that time, CARP members have paid close attention to the various government proposals and actions. When only Pooled Registered Pension Plans were on offer, CARP members saw this as an acknowledgement of the need to address retirement insecurity but always relied on even a modest enhancement of the CPP in order to materially improve the pension landscape for future generations.

CARP regularly polls its members on our major advocacy issues and CARP members have consistently demonstrated their support for CARP's UPP and therefore support CPP enhancement. Their impatience with government inaction on this part of pension reform was again demonstrated in this weekend's poll.

CARP members are reiterating their call for enhancing the CPP as the best way to actually help people save adequately for their own retirement. They reject the PRPPs as an adequate solution on its own, disagree that a weak economy cannot withstand even modest employer contributions and want a substantial, not just modest, CPP enhancement to address poverty among seniors and their concern that the economy suffers if there are more low income seniors

CARP members want you to use whatever leverage you have at the FPT table to arrive at the consensus required to amend the CPP.

ADVOCACY

BENEFITS

COMMUNITY

CARP members know that CPP changes will only help future generations, not themselves, and see CPP playing a critical role in preventing poverty among seniors - the whole point of a nation's pension system. So even if the impact will not be felt for decades, they know that governments need to act now.

CARP members will be watching for your leadership on one of their most pressing concerns.

Please find attached our news release issued concurrently with this letter.

As before, we would be pleased to include your official response to CARP members on our website and e-newsletter should you wish to respond to CARP members directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Susan Eng', with a large, stylized initial 'S' and a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Susan Eng
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Attachment