

# UMP Communique Pension Plan Communique

# **INVESTMENTS**

**FALL 2023** 

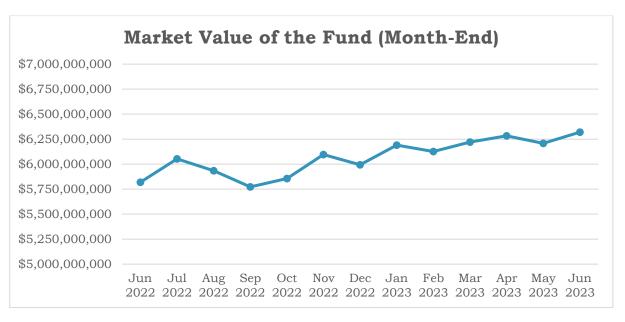
The UAPP Fund experienced a gain of 1.9% in the second quarter of 2023, resulting in a year-to-date return of 6.0%.

| Market Value and Asset Mix of the Fund | 30-Jun-2023 |                | 31-Dec-2022 |                |  |
|--|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|--|
| Asset Class                            | (\$million) | Actual Mix (%) | (\$million) | Actual Mix (%) |  |
| Cash & Short-term                      | 38.9        | 0.6            | 13.7        | 0.2            |  |
| Universe Bonds                         | 642.5       | 10.2           | 685.8       | 11.4           |  |
| Mortgages                              | 259.3       | 4.1            | 250.1       | 4.2            |  |
| Real Return Bonds                      | 355.7       | 5.6            | 355.6       | 5.9            |  |
| Long Bonds                             | 646.3       | 10.2           | 617.7       | 10.3           |  |
| Total Cash & Fixed Income              | 1,942.8     | 30.7           | 1,922.9     | 32.1           |  |
| Canadian Equities                      | 255.5       | 4.0            | 265.2       | 4.4            |  |
| Global Equities                        | 2,056.7     | 32.5           | 1,839.6     | 30.7           |  |
| Emerging Market Equities               | 359.5       | 5.7            | 350.9       | 5.9            |  |
| Private Equity                         | 677.7       | 10.7           | 648.4       | 10.8           |  |
| Total Equities                         | 3,349.5     | 53.0           | 3,104.1     | 51.8           |  |
| Real Estate                            | 539.2       | 8.5            | 518.0       | 8.6            |  |
| Infrastructure                         | 438.7       | 6.9            | 399.6       | 6.7            |  |
| Timberland                             | 50.0        | 0.8            | 48.6        | 0.8            |  |
| Total Alternative Classes              | 1,027.8     | 16.3           | 966.2       | 16.1           |  |
| Total Investments                      | 6,320.0     | 100.0          | 5,993.2     | 100.0          |  |





| Rates of Return of the Fund (%)          | Quarter ending | One Year ending | Four Year ending |
|--|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| (/                                       | 30-Jun-2023    | 30-Jun-2023     | 30-Jun-2023      |
| Total Investment Return                  | 1.9            | 9.9             | 6.0              |
| Policy Benchmark Return                  | 1.7            | 10.3            | 4.6              |
| Cash & Short-Term                        | 1.7            | 5.2             | 1.6              |
| FTSE Canada 91 Day T-Bill Index          | 1.0            | 3.7             | 1.5              |
| Universe Bonds                           | -0.8           | 3.9             | -0.4             |
| FTSE Canada Universe Bond Index          | -0.7           | 3.2             | -1.0             |
| Mortgages                                | -1.0           | 1.3             | 2.1              |
| FTSE Short/Mid-Term Bond Index + 75 bps  | -1.1           | 2.9             | 1.2              |
| Real Return Bonds                        | 0.1            | 4.0             | -0.4             |
| FTSE Canada Real Return Bond Index       | 0.0            | 3.4             | -0.6             |
| Long Bonds                               | 0.7            | 6.4             | -2.6             |
| FTSE Canada Overall Long-Term Bond Index | 0.6            | 5.9             | -3.0             |
| Canadian Equities                        | 1.1            | 10.4            | 6.6              |
| S&P/TSX Capped Composite Index           | 1.1            | 10.4            | 8.6              |
| Global Equities                          | 4.5            | 22.0            | 8.5              |
| MSCI World Total Return Net Index        | 4.5            | 21.6            | 10.1             |
| Emerging Market Equities                 | -1.5           | 4.1             | -0.5             |
| MSCI Emerging Markets Net Index          | -1.4           | 4.4             | 1.2              |
| Private Equity                           | 3.7            | 0.9             | 27.7             |
| CPI + 650 bps                            | 2.8            | 9.5             | 10.4             |
| Real Estate                              | 0.4            | 2.3             | 2.5              |
| MSCI/REALpac Canadian Property Index     | 0.4            | -0.6            | 1.6              |
| Infrastructure                           | 1.5            | 11.5            | 13.2             |
| CPI + 600 bps                            | 2.7            | 9.0             | 9.8              |
| Timberland                               | 0.7            | 40.2            | 16.3             |
| CPI + 400 bps                            | 2.2            | 6.9             | 7.8              |





# PLAN DEMOGRAPHICS

| Metrics                          |             |             |             |             |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|--|--|
| Member Type                      | 30-Jun-2023 | 31-Dec-2022 | 30-Jun-2022 | 31-Dec-2021 |  |  |  |
| Number of Members at Quarter End |             |             |             |             |  |  |  |
| Active Members                   | 7,973       | 7,868       | 7,706       | 7,814       |  |  |  |
| Deferred Members                 | 2,744       | 2,631       | 2,610       | 2,551       |  |  |  |
| Pensioners                       | 6,733       | 6,720       | 6,519       | 6,424       |  |  |  |
| Total                            | 17,450      | 17,219      | 16,835      | 16,789      |  |  |  |
| Average Age of Members at Qua    | arter End   |             | •           |             |  |  |  |
| Active Members                   | 49.3        | 49.3        | 49.6        | 49.4        |  |  |  |
| Deferred Members                 | 51.8        | 51.4        | 51.2        | 51.2        |  |  |  |
| Pensioners                       | 74.9        | 74.6        | 74.6        | 74.5        |  |  |  |
|                                  |             |             |             |             |  |  |  |
| Number of Events during Quarte   | er          |             |             |             |  |  |  |
| Retirements                      | 92          | 153         | 76          | 109         |  |  |  |
| Lump Sum Payouts                 | 50          | 77          | 75          | 73          |  |  |  |
| Deaths                           | 67          | 52          | 28          | 35          |  |  |  |
| Retirement Planner Accesses      | 3,631       | 1,603       | 3,641       | 2,323       |  |  |  |

# 2022 ACTUARIAL VALUATION RESULTS

The table below provides the results of the recently completed December 31, 2022 valuation compared to the results of the previous valuation performed as at December 31, 2020.

| (\$millions)              | December 31, 2022 |                    |                  | December 31, 2020 |                    |                  |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
|                           | Pre-92<br>Service | Post-91<br>Service | Total<br>Service | Pre-92<br>Service | Post-91<br>Service | Total<br>Service |
| Market Value of Assets    | 464.3             | 5,549.8            | 6,014.1          | 596.5             | 5,181.8            | 5,778.3          |
| Actuarial Adjustment      | 28.8              | 370.9              | 399.7            | (22.3)            | (134.0)            | (156.3)          |
| Actuarial Value of Assets | 493.1             | 5,920.7            | 6,413.8          | 574.2             | 5,047.8            | 5,622.0          |
| Accrued Liability         | 1,386.1           | 5,418.1            | 6,804.2          | 1,444.4           | 5,052.2            | 6,496.6          |
| Actuarial Deficiency      | (893.0)           | 502.6              | (390.4)          | (870.2)           | (4.4)              | (874.6)          |
| Funded Ratio              | 35.6%             | 109.3%             | 94.3%            | 39.8%             | 99.9%              | 86.5%            |

### **Plan Assets**

The Plan experienced a 16.0% market rate of return for 2021, followed by a -8.7% return for 2022. These investment returns, combined with the smoothing method applied to the actuarial value of the assets, resulted in an average annualized return of 7.82% over the two-year period, during which the assumed rate of return was 5.30% per annum.



The smoothing method is applied as it softens the impact of both negative and positive fluctuations in markets on the actuarial position of the Plan, reducing the effect of short-term volatility on contribution rates and the market value of assets. Due to the negative return during 2022, the market value of assets is less than the actuarial value used for valuation purposes.

Based on the December 31, 2022 valuation results, the Plan's funded status has improved from 86.5% to 94.3%. The pre-1992 funded status continues to erode mainly due to the lengthy amortization of the pre-1992 unfunded liability to the end of 2043. The post-1991 funded status has improved due to the positive aggregate investment returns and past post-1991 unfunded liabilities being amortized over only 15 years. This valuation revealed that the post-1991 period is now in a surplus position.

#### **Plan Liabilities**

The Board of Trustees, in consultation with the Plan's actuary, reviewed the assumptions used to determine the liabilities and contribution requirements of the Plan and made some changes for the 2022 valuation. In terms of its impact on liabilities, the most significant assumption is the discount rate. Considering the significant increases in interest rates since the early part of 2022, the discount rate used to value Plan liabilities was raised from 5.30% per annum to 5.62% per annum. A change was also made to the mortality table used in the valuation to better reflect the Plan's anticipated demographic activity relating to mortality. The net impact of these and other smaller assumption changes has been relatively lower liabilities.

In addition to assumption changes, liabilities will vary from valuation to valuation based on changes in the Plan's membership and the demographic and economic experience of the membership during the inter-valuation period. The analysis of experience in this valuation reveals that member salaries increased slower than assumed, while inflation grew faster than expected. Further, there were more terminations and retirements than expected since the last valuation, but fewer deaths. All these assumptions are reviewed at the time of each valuation and updated as needed.

# NEW CONTRIBUTION RATES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024

With the goals of securing the benefits of Plan members and complying with the funding requirements of the Employment Pension Plans Act (Alberta), the Board, on the advice of its actuary, will maintain the overall total contribution rate at 26.88% combined for members and employers with slightly higher required rates for the portion of salaries below the Year's Maximum Pensionable Earnings (YMPE), between the YMPE and pensionable salary cap, and above the pensionable salary cap. Even though the overall rate is unchanged, the split rates are changed to account for changes in the YMPE, the pensionable salary cap, and the demographics of Plan membership since the last actuarial valuation.



The current contribution rates and the new contribution rates that take effect July 1, 2024 are as follows:

| Current Rate (% of Salary) Effective prior to July 1, 2024 | Universities of<br>Alberta, Calgary, &<br>Lethbridge |          | Athabasca<br>University & Banff<br>Centre |          |
|--|--|----------|---|----------|
| Salary Portion   | Member   | Employer | Member                                    | Employer |
| On earnings up to YMPE                                     | 11.38%   | 11.38%   | 10.88%                                    | 11.88%   |
| On earnings in excess of YMPE up to pensionable salary cap | 15.49%   | 15.49%   | 14.99%                                    | 15.99%   |
| On earnings in excess of pensionable salary                | 1.785%   | 1.785%   | 1.785%                                    | 1.785%   |

| New Rate (% of Salary) Effective July 1, 2024              | Universities of<br>Alberta, Calgary, &<br>Lethbridge |          | Athabasca<br>University & Banff<br>Centre |          |
|--|--|----------|---|----------|
| Salary Portion   | Member   | Employer | Member                                    | Employer |
| On earnings up to YMPE                                     | 11.49%   | 11.49%   | 10.99%                                    | 11.99%   |
| On earnings in excess of YMPE up to pensionable salary cap | 15.55%   | 15.55%   | 15.05%                                    | 16.05%   |
| On earnings in excess of pensionable salary                | 2.015%   | 2.015%   | 2.015%                                    | 2.015%   |

# **Impact on Members**

Based on the 2023 YMPE and pensionable salary cap, the estimated monthly change in member contributions to the UAPP starting July 1, 2024 would be as follows:

| Monthly Salary | Monthly Change <sup>1</sup> | After-tax<br>Monthly<br>Change <sup>2</sup> |
|----------------|-----------------------------|---|
| \$6,000        | \$6.37                      | \$4.08                                      |
| \$8,000        | \$7.57                      | \$4.85                                      |
| \$10,000       | \$8.77                      | \$5.62                                      |
| \$12,000       | \$9.98                      | \$6.38                                      |
| \$14,000       | \$11.18                     | \$7.15                                      |
| \$16,000       | \$12.38                     | \$7.92                                      |
| \$18,000       | \$16.51                     | \$10.56                                     |
| \$20,000       | \$21.11                     | \$13.51                                     |

- This amount will vary once the 2024 YMPE and pensionable salary cap become known.
- <sup>2</sup> This amount has been calculated assuming a marginal income tax rate of 36%. The actual after-tax amount will vary depending on a member's marginal tax rate.

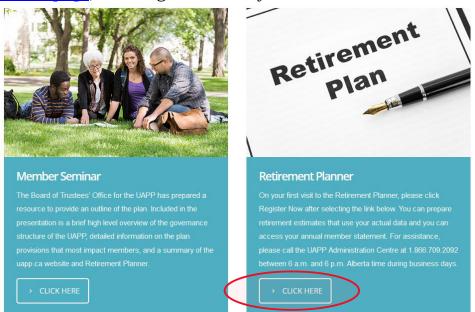


## MORE INFORMATION

#### Retirement Planner

Active members of UAPP have automatic access to the Retirement Planner, only needing to register. The link is on <u>UAPP's home page</u>, scrolling down to Key Information:





Within the Retirement Planner, you can perform retirement calculations by running an unlimited number of pension estimates, adjusting for important details like retirement dates and future salary adjustments. You can also access your Annual Member Statement. If you have questions about your pension or the Retirement Planner, please call the UAPP Administration Centre toll-free at 1.866.709.2092.

#### **Publications**

The UAPP website includes a host of publications intended to assist members in understanding their pension plan. In addition to this <u>Communique</u>, these publications include the <u>Member Handbook</u>, <u>Annual Report</u>, and several <u>Information Sheets</u>, covering a range of topics such as New Member Basics, Pension Options, Death or Leaving the Plan Before Retirement, Preparing For Retirement, and the Retired Member Guide.

#### Contact Us

If you terminate employment and leave your funds in UAPP, ensure we have your current address and beneficiary information. <u>Email us</u> to update your address. Beneficiaries can be updated by using the <u>UAPP Designation of Spouse and Non-Spouse Beneficiary form</u>. Make sure your family and executor know you are entitled to a benefit from the UAPP.

#### Universities Academic Pension Plan - Board of Trustees Office

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