

Resolutions Directed To STS (A)

(Bylaws)

A 1. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS annual fee for 2017-18 be \$30.00 per person.

Response:

The STS annual fee for 2017-18 has been set at \$30.00 per person.

A 2. BE IT RESOLVED that the STS annual rebate to each Chapter for 2017-18 be \$400.00 plus \$8.00 per member.

Response:

The STS annual rebate to each Chapter for 2017-18 has been set at \$400.00 plus \$8.00 per member.

A 3. BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 2 – Officers and Committees 3.3.12 Support Services Planning Committee be removed from the STS Policy Handbook.

Response:

Bylaw 2 – Officers and Committees 3.3.12 Support Services Planning Committee has been removed from the STS Policy Handbook.

(Non-Bylaw)

- A 9. BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS Executive encourage STS Chapters and members to advocate for seniors' health care in Saskatchewan by requesting provincial and federal governments to provide increased funding specific to senior health care, a prescription drug plan that ensures affordable access to prescribed medicine, and the expansion of home care as well as regulated affordable care homes.

Response:

This resolution was mailed to SSM and to ACER-CART May 24, 2017. On June 5, 2017, SSM advised that they had adopted the resolution at their June 1 AGM. The STS will continue to monitor the disposition of this resolution by SSM.

This resolution was adapted for ACER-CART and was carried at their AGM in June with a friendly amendment as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that ACER-CART encourage its Members to advocate for seniors' health care in Canada and in their respective provinces by requesting provincial and federal governments to provide increased funding specific to senior health care, a **National Formulary Drug Plan** that ensures affordable access to prescribed medicine, and the expansion of home care as well as regulated affordable care homes.

- A 10. BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS Executive develop strategies that STS Chapters and members can use to advocate for expanded health care for seniors in Saskatchewan.

Response:

On November 16, 2017, eleven STS Executive members attended the SSM Advocacy Workshop in Regina.

The STS will be offering an Interest Session on Advocacy to be held at the 2018 AGM where discussions will address this resolution.

- A 12. BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS work with Saskatchewan Blue Cross to reduce the three premium brackets to a single premium rate for all members of the STS Group Dental Care Plan.

Response:

The STS had a very extensive discussion with Saskatchewan Blue Cross regarding the elimination of premium brackets for the STS Dental plan. Given the extent of the deficit position and the financial impact on some Dental plan participants (well over 30% if a change was made), it was decided to defer this matter until the next round of negotiations.

Resolutions Directed to the Government Of Saskatchewan (D)

- D 1. BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS request SSM to urge the Government of Saskatchewan to increase preventative and supportive resources for community-based seniors and those with chronic disease, promoting long term independence and well-being.

Response:

This resolution was mailed to SSM May 24, 2017. On June 5, 2017, SSM advised that they had adopted the resolution at their June 1 AGM. The STS will continue to monitor the disposition of this resolution by SSM.

- D 2. BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS Executive work with other provincial organizations such as Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism, to advocate for expanded seniors' health care in Saskatchewan that would include increased funding specific to senior health care, a prescription drug plan that ensures affordable access to prescribed medicine, and the expansion of home care as well as regulated and affordable care homes.

Response:

This resolution was mailed to SSM May 24, 2017. On June 5, 2017, SSM advised that they had adopted the resolution. The STS will continue to monitor the disposition of this resolution by SSM.

- D 3. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan, which administers its own voluntary group benefits plan on behalf of approximately 7,250 members without subsidy from employers or government, voice its opposition to any policy change by the Government of Canada that would cause payments from its group benefits program being subject to taxation, and that we communicate our position to leaders of the federal political parties, the federal Minister of Finance and all Saskatchewan Members of Parliament and ACER-CART.

Response:

This resolution was sent to ACER-CART May 24, 2017 and adapted for ACER-CART. It was carried at their AGM in June:

BE IT RESOLVED that ACER-CART voice its opposition to any policy change by the Government of Canada that would cause payments from its group benefits program being subject to taxation, and that we communicate our position to the federal Minister of Finance, to leaders of political parties and encourage members to do so by communicating with Members of Parliament in their respective provinces.

- D 4. BE IT RESOLVED** that Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan with the permission of the STF Executive advocate to the Ministers of Health and the Government of Saskatchewan to ensure that meaningful consultations with each of the provincial seniors' organizations are part of the dialogue involved in the transitional change of health services delivery in regards to transitioning from 12 Health Regions to one Health Authority.

Response:

The STS received permission from the STF Executive to advocate with the provincial government on this resolution. On July 31, 2017, this resolution was sent to the Hon. Jim Reiter, Minister of Health. As no response had been received a follow up email was sent to the Minister's office on November 28, 2017. The Minister's office acknowledged receipt of the email and indicated that the correspondence would be brought to the Minister's attention. Please refer to the attached letter from the Minister of Health dated December 14, 2017.

- D 5. BE IT RESOLVED** that Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan lobby the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism to review their programs for seniors and to develop strategies for engaging member organizations in the delivery of seniors' programs – especially in rural Saskatchewan.

Response:

This resolution was sent to SSM May 24, 2017.

- D 6. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan with the permission of the STF Executive advocate to the Government of Saskatchewan to create the position of Seniors' Advocate to enable better, more responsive, proactive action to address the needs and concerns of seniors in the province.

Response:

The STS received permission from the STF Executive to advocate with the provincial government on this resolution. On July 31, 2017, this resolution was sent to the Hon. Jim Reiter, Minister of Health. As no response had been received a follow up email was sent to the Minister's office on November 28, 2017. The Minister's office acknowledged receipt of the email and indicated that the correspondence would be brought to the Minister's attention. No further response has been received.

RECEIVED DEC 14 2017



Government
— of —
Saskatchewan

Community Care

Ministry of Health
3475 Albert Street
Regina, Canada S4S 6X6

December 12, 2017

Mr. Fred Herron
Executive Secretary
Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan
2311 Arlington Avenue
SASKATOON SK S7J 2H8

Dear Mr. Herron:

Re: Resolutions Passed at 2017 Annual General Meeting

Thank you for your recent letter informing us of two resolutions passed by your organization at your 2017 Annual General Meeting, which were directed at the Ministry of Health. I am pleased to respond.

The move to a single provincial health authority is being driven by the commitment to improve frontline patient care for Saskatchewan people. Our goal is to better coordinate health care services across the province, and improve access to high quality, timely patient care for residents, wherever they live.

We look forward to continuing to work with our partners and stakeholders during this transition period to ensure their voices are heard. I understand that the Superannuated Teachers of Saskatchewan are a member organization of the Saskatchewan Seniors Mechanism (SSM), an umbrella organization bringing together seniors' organizations throughout the province. The Ministry of Health will continue to meet regularly with the SSM to discuss issues of interest to older persons, including those brought forward by their member organizations.

Client representatives, patient advocates and Quality of Care Coordinators will continue to be available in communities around the province to help residents that have questions or concerns about access to care, services, treatment, or how decisions were made.

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Mr. Herron
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A new website for the Saskatchewan Health Authority has been launched; however, it will take some time to bring together all the information on programs and services across the province into this single new website. While this work is happening, residents may continue to visit the website for their former health region for detailed information on programs and services. The new website is available at www.saskhealthauthority.ca.

Thank you, again, for writing.

Sincerely,



Heather Murray
A/Executive Director

cc: Honourable Jim Reiter, Minister of Health (Referral 17-1335)

Late Resolutions

- A 2. BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS determine the financial impact on the organization and its members of the changes in the provincial sales tax and any other changes affecting the STS made by the Government of Saskatchewan in the 2017-18 provincial budget and share this information with the membership.

Response:

Extended Health and Dental Premiums - \$58,000 PST monthly

Teachers' Group Life Insurance - \$18,000 PST monthly

STS Annual General Meeting – Increase cost of \$2,500

STS Operations – Increase cost of \$2,500

Portaplan will have individual implications.

Effective May 1, 2017 coverage for low cost orthotics will no longer be universally covered for short term conditions, such as fractures or sprains.

Effective July 1, 2017 Chiropractor services will no longer be a benefit for individuals with coverage under Supplementary Health Benefits, Family Health Benefits and for Senior's Income Plan.

Effective July 1, 2017 Hearing Aid Plan (HAP and podiatry services will no longer be provided by the health regions.

Effective October 1, 2017 coverage for Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) flow generators will no longer be universally covered.

- A 3. BE IT RESOLVED** that the STS develop and implement an advocacy and communications strategy to assist individual members, the Chapters and the STS to communicate to the Government of Saskatchewan the concerns related to the financial impact of the 2017-18 provincial budget on the STS and its members.

Response:

On November 16, 2017, eleven STS Executive members attended the SSM Advocacy Workshop in Regina.

The STS will be offering an Interest Session on Advocacy to be held at the 2018 AGM where discussions will address this resolution.