

NEWSBULLETIN

Face mask recall | RPN regional meetings | Pension plan improvements

Health Canada recall of face masks that contain graphene may pose health risks

Product: Face masks labelled to contain graphene or biomass graphene

Issue: There is a potential that wearers could inhale graphene particles from some masks, which may pose health risks

What to do: Do not use these face masks. Report any health product adverse events or complaints to Health Canada.

[https://healthy Canad ians.gc.ca/recall-alert-rappel-avis/hc-sc/2021/75309a-eng.php](https://healthy Canadians.gc.ca/recall-alert-rappel-avis/hc-sc/2021/75309a-eng.php)



Improvements to your pension plan

Building on strong financial returns for 2020-21 of 11.4%, the Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan (HOOPP) has announced a number of benefit improvements (see page 2).

HOOPP is a pension plan that is jointly administered by 4 unions, including CUPE and by the Ontario Hospital Association.

HOOPP's 16 Trustees include **Louis Rodrigues** and **Sharon Richer**, full-time officers with the Ontario Council of Hospital Unions-CUPE.



Regional Conferences for Registered Practical Nurses April 6-14

OCHU-CUPE's RPN Committee will hold conferences starting April 6. The College of Nurses of Ontario and WeRPN will make presentations. Bargaining goals for RPNs, workloads, malpractice and insurance will be discussed.

If you would like to attend please contact your local union. You can also contact: admin@ochu.on.ca

Southwest: April 12

Hamilton: April 6

GTA: April 7

Central: April 8

Eastern: April 9

Northeast: April 13

Northwest: April 14

Improvements to your pension plan

Formula used to calculate the pension has changed

For service in 2018, 2019 and 2020, pension on earnings under the yearly maximum pensionable earnings (YMPE) will now be calculated at **1.75% x years of service x salary**. For active plan members, this credit of past service using the factor of 1.75% rather than 1.5% x years of service x salary for earnings under YMPE is great news. All past service for active members up to and including 2020 is now calculated at the higher rate. Earnings above YMPE (\$61,600 in 2021) are calculated at 2% x years of service x salary.

Plan members who take covid-19 related unpaid leaves can also ask HOOPP to cover the pension contributions for those periods. Full details: hoopp.com.

