

January 19, 2018

Dalhousie University Staff Pension Plan
Registration Number 0242297

To the Members of the Dalhousie University Staff Pension Plan:

Notice: Plan Amendment to Reflect Changes to the Nova Scotia *Pension Benefits Act*

This is to provide notice of an amendment to the Dalhousie University Staff Pension Plan to reflect changes in the Nova Scotia *Pension Benefits Act* that were effective June 1, 2015. The Dalhousie University Staff Pension Plan is required to be administered in accordance with the provisions of the Nova Scotia *Pension Benefits Act*. The amendment was recently reviewed and recommended for approval by the Pension Advisory Committee, a committee comprised of representatives of the Board of Governors and all of Dalhousie's employee groups.

The Dalhousie University Staff Pension Plan has been administered in accordance with the changes to the Nova Scotia *Pension Benefits Act* since June 1, 2015, and this amendment is required to update the wording of the plan document so that it is in compliance with the legislation as of that date.

Changes resulting from the amendment include the following:

- Improved minimum pre-retirement death benefits, increasing the entitlement for post-1987 pensionable service to 100% of the commuted value of the member's pension.
- Immediate vesting of pension benefits upon joining the plan, rather than waiting until after two years (24 months) of plan membership. This resulted in amending or removing wording in the plan document that referenced the 24 months.
- Updated definition of spouse to match the definition required under legislation.

This amendment does not affect the plan formula or the monthly retirement benefit to be payable to current active members on their eventual retirement, and does not affect pension benefits already in pay.

A copy of the amendment has been posted at dal.ca/pension. If you have any questions about this notice, please contact Dalhousie Retirement Services by email at pensions@dal.ca or by telephone at (902) 494-1782.