



ADDING VALUE FOR MEMBERS

A Doubled Hour Bank and myTEIBAS.com

In 2014, the combination of strong financial performance, increased work hours and contributions, created a financial cushion for the health and welfare fund and has allowed the Board of Trustees to double existing hour banks for eligible members. This newsletter outlines the criteria for the doubling of member hour banks and the various benefit improvements that take effect May 1st, 2015.

Doubling the hour banks for active members in benefit allows working members some peace of mind by allocating up to two years of benefit coverage in the event of unemployment. Watch for your next contribution statement to highlight the value of your current hour bank. If you are an active member with benefit coverage and you have a balance in your hour bank, the Board of Trustees will make a credit equal to the balance in your hour bank on May 1st, 2015, effectively doubling your hour bank balance on your second quarter contribution statement. You will receive this statement in August 2015 and it will also be posted online at myTEIBAS.com.

It is easy to access your personal information on myTEIBAS.com. It's a secure portal where you sign up and create your own account. All you need is a valid email address, your drug card number, year of birth and last three digits of your Social Insurance Number. On this new site, you can see your profile information, your pension statement and contribution statements. Check it out and let us know what you think!

IBEW Local 353 Membership Votes to Carry Out-Of-Work Members & Approves Plan Improvements

Active members in attendance at the Special Called Meeting on April 12th, 2015, voted to pay 18¢ per hour to subsidize benefit coverage for members on the Union's out-of-work list.

Effective May 1st, 2015, the membership voted to increase the hourly contribution rate by 15¢, approving these benefit improvements:

- Semi-private hospital stays are now covered for acute care accommodation
- Shingles vaccines are now covered with a prescription from your doctor
- Vision coverage has been increased to \$600 every 24 months
- Continuous Glucose Monitors (CGM) have been added to eligible devices for Type 1 diabetics
- Best Doctors coverage is now available for members over age 65 and their eligible dependants
- Ontario Drug Benefit annual deductible of \$100 is now covered by the Plan for members over age 65 and their eligible dependants effective August 1st, 2015.

WHAT'S INSIDE

2 DOUBLED HOUR BANK

GREAT-WEST LIFE
DEDICATED TOLL-FREE
NUMBER

UPCOMING SEMINARS

3 BENEFIT IMPROVEMENTS

MYTEIBAS MEMBER
PORTAL

4 WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

HSA DEADLINE

Sign Up for myTEIBAS.com!

If you're an active member (not suspended/retired), visit www.myteibas.com and create an account to view the information we have on file for you.

Pension Vote

ICI members voted to increase the hourly contribution rate by 18¢ to \$7.60, which is the maximum contribution increase allowed by law. This increase also includes the \$0.86 per hour to help pay down the shortfall.

Low-rise members voted to keep the contribution rate the same at \$6.87. This contribution rate includes the \$0.86 per hour to help pay down the shortfall.



Doubling Your Hour Bank

The IBEW Local 353 Board of Trustees and Executive Board unanimously recommended the doubling of eligible members' hour banks effective May 1st, 2015. Here are the criteria for eligibility:



EXAMPLE

Bob has 1,620 hours on his first quarterly contribution statement in May. When he receives his second quarterly contribution statement in August, he will see a credit of 1,620 hours, effectively doubling the amount of his May 1st hour bank.

You are eligible for the doubling of your hour bank if you are currently in benefit, are a member in good standing with IBEW Local 353 and you are one of the following:

- working;
- on the out-of-work list;
- collecting a 353 monthly pension but still working; or
- on one of the following approved leaves:
 - full WSIB
 - short-term disability
 - long-term disability
 - parental & pregnancy
 - family medical

How it works:

1. On your first quarterly contribution statement, you will see the value of your hour bank balance as of May 1st, 2015. This will include the work hours submitted by your employer up to March 2015.
2. If you meet the above criteria, your second quarterly contribution statement will show a credit to your hour bank in an amount equal to your May 1st, 2015 hour bank balance.
3. The current cap of 1,620 hours in the hour bank has been doubled to 3,240 hours.
4. If you're at the cap with 1,620 hours, this will enable you to maintain coverage for you and your family for up to two years of unemployment.



If you have any questions about your hour bank and how you are affected by this, please call TEIBAS at **416-637-6789**.

Dedicated Staff & Phone Number at Great-West Life!

TEIBAS strives to bring you the best service possible and we have partnered with Great-West Life to provide members of IBEW Local 353 with a direct phone number. A trained team of dedicated staff are available to answer specific questions about the IBEW Local 353 Benefit Plan.

1-844-232-4239

YOU CAN CALL GREAT-WEST LIFE
MONDAY TO FRIDAY FROM 8:00 AM TO 7:00 PM

Upcoming 2015 Seminars



If you are planning to retire within the next six months or have questions about your benefit plan, please join us at the IBEW Local 353 South Union Hall located at 1377 Lawrence Ave East at 9:00am, on the following dates:

SEPTEMBER 19, 2015

PRE-RETIREMENT INFORMATION SEMINAR

OCTOBER 17, 2015

RETIREE INFORMATION SEMINAR

NOVEMBER 7, 2015

BENEFIT INFORMATION SEMINAR

NOVEMBER 21, 2015

PRE-RETIREMENT INFORMATION SEMINAR

Please RSVP by contacting TEIBAS at **416-637-6789**. Seating is limited. Spouses are welcome to attend.

Benefit Improvements

Taking care of you and your family is important to us and to the members of IBEW Local 353. Below is an overview of the benefit improvements for members and their eligible dependants effective **May 1st, 2015**:

Semi-Private Coverage*

Semi-private hospital acute care accommodations are now eligible under the Plan. The Plan covers the difference between semi-private hospital charges and standard ward rate accommodations in a publicly funded acute care hospital in Ontario. OHIP pays standard ward rates.

Shingles Vaccine*

Shingles vaccines prescribed by a physician and administered by a qualified health care practitioner are covered.

Vision Coverage

Vision coverage will now be \$600 every 24 consecutive months. Contact Great-West Life to confirm eligibility and your personal 24-month window.

For example: If you purchased eyeglasses that cost \$450 on March 15th, 2015 Great-West Life will allocate \$150 towards your 24-month coverage on May 1st, 2015. Your 24-month coverage period still ends on March 15th, 2017 but your next eyeglasses purchase will be eligible for \$600.

*subject to GWL reasonable & customary limits

Continuous Glucose Monitor (CGM)*

CGM is now on the list of eligible devices that are reimbursed at 50% within the current maximum of \$3,000 every 60 consecutive months for those with Type 1 diabetes.

Be sure to obtain pre-approval from Great-West Life prior to purchasing a CGM. Contact Great-West Life for further information.

Best Doctors**

Members over age 65 now have access to Best Doctors.

With access to more than 53,000 expert physicians worldwide, Best Doctors can help you get an expert second opinion about surgery or a medical diagnosis, help you find a specialist, or get help understanding your condition and navigating the healthcare system.

For more information call Best Doctors at **1-877-419-2378**.

** excluding mental health conditions

Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Deductible

As of **August 1st, 2015** the ODB yearly deductible of \$100 will now be an eligible expense. Present your drug card to the pharmacy for coverage of your deductible.

Please note: The group insurance coverage for prescription drugs is unchanged. Your pharmacy submits your claim to the ODB first and if any amount of the prescription drug is covered, the Plan will not pay the difference.

myTEIBAS.com!

Active members (not suspended/retired) can create an account on myteibas.com and view the information we have on file as well as their most recent pension statement and contribution statement. Retirees will have access this fall. Go to www.myteibas.com and create an account now!



IBEW LOCAL 353
Pension & Benefit Plans



TEIBAS
Toronto Electrical
Industry Benefit
Administrative Services

Welcome

[myProfile](#) [myPension](#) [myBenefits](#) [myRRSP](#) [myDocuments](#) [myForms](#) [Contact Us](#)

Welcome to myTEIBAS



Steven Martin
Business Manager/
Financial Secretary

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the IBEW Local 353 Pension and Benefit Plans, I would like to welcome you to myTEIBAS.com. Here, you will find helpful information about your pension and benefits which are administered by our own benefits company, TEIBAS. TEIBAS keeps track of your pension and benefit entitlements and ensures that these plans are expertly managed at the direction of the Board of Trustees.

myTEIBAS provides you with an overview of your personal information including your mailing address, dependants and beneficiaries. You will also be able to view your latest contribution statement and pension statement.

If any of the information is incorrect or you need clarification, contact TEIBAS at 416-637-6789 or by email portal@teibas.com.

The Board of Trustees of IBEW Local 353

Bill Acorn IBEW Local 353	Jeff Irons IBEW Local 353
Peter Calabrese Greater Toronto ECA	Steven Martin IBEW Local 353
George Docherty Greater Toronto ECA	Michael Mulgrew Greater Toronto ECA
Dave Graham Greater Toronto ECA	Robert White (Chair) IBEW Local 353

Executive Administrator of TEIBAS

Marnie Niemi Hood
Executive Administrator

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Do you have a question for us?

Contact us at 416-637-6789 or by email at members@teibas.com

Examples of recent questions:

How do I create an account on myteibas.com?

If you are an active member (not suspended/retired), go to www.myteibas.com, click create an account and enter the required information. You will receive an email with a password that you must use along with your email address to login.

I'm travelling outside of Ontario, what do I need to bring?

When travelling outside of Ontario, you should always carry your valid healthcard along with your Viator travel card and booklet. Download the travel card and booklet at myteibas.com.

Time is running out to file your HSA claim!



You have until July 29th, 2015 to submit eligible expenses incurred from May 1st, 2013 to April 30th, 2014 through your healthcare spending account.

Contact Great-West Life at 1-844-232-4239 to confirm if you have a remaining balance.



MEMBERS OF THE IBEW LOCAL 353 TRUST FUNDS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bill Acorn
IBEW Local 353

Peter Calabrese
Greater Toronto ECA

George Docherty
Greater Toronto ECA

Dave Graham
Greater Toronto ECA

Jeff Irons
IBEW Local 353

Steven Martin
IBEW Local 353

Michael Mulgrew
Greater Toronto ECA

Robert White
IBEW Local 353



TEIBAS

Toronto **Electrical**
Industry **Benefit**
Administrative **Services**

Mailing Address:

705 – 110 Sheppard Ave. East, Toronto, ON, M2N 6Y8

About this bulletin

This bulletin was prepared on behalf of the Trustees of the Local 353 IBEW Trust Funds. It provides summary information about the Local 353 Health and Welfare Plan and the IBEW 353 Pension Plan (registration number 0598235) in plain language. This publication is not intended to provide advice. If there is any discrepancy between this document and the legal documents that govern the plans, the legal documents will apply. The Trustees expect to maintain these benefit plans indefinitely. However, they reserve the right to change or cancel any or all benefits under the Health and Welfare Plan, the Pension Plan, and the SUB Plan for active and retired members, and their survivors and dependants.

