



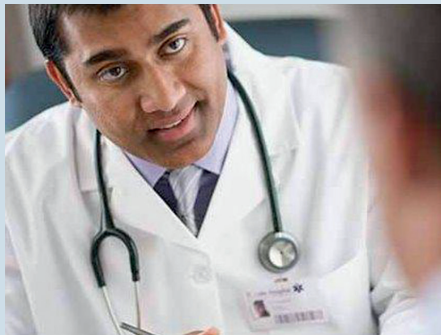
INNOVATION ON MEMBER PORTAL

Lifespeak Video Library on myTEIBAS.com

As the summer makes way for cooler weather and school starts up again, achieving work-life balance can be a challenge. We're proud to introduce a terrific enhancement to our member portal for active members, retirees, and surviving spouses. We have added a chat function to make our services more accessible online so plan members can reach us on their chosen devices wherever they are.

We have recently partnered with Lifespeak, an online video platform which gives IBEW Local 353 members and their family access to expert advice on all kinds of health and wellness topics. A variety of video topics such as managing arthritis, heart disease, diabetes, cancer prevention, financial planning, couples relationships and many more are available by logging into myteibas.com and clicking on the "myhealth" tab. We have chosen videos that reflect our members most frequent health claims concerns and Member Assistance Plan inquiries. We hope you and your family will find them helpful and informative.

Here is an example of this month's featured video in honour of Arthritis Awareness Month:



What is Arthritis

Dr. Obiwanne Ugwonalu

An overview of arthritis, including the different types, risk factors and operative and non operative treatment options.

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Congratulations
TO OUR
LIFESPEAK 
YOU KNOW.
YOU CAN.

Watch & Win Winner

Congratulations to member Steve Hoskin who won a \$100 Canadian Tire gift card by watching LifeSpeak videos on myteibas.com

Sign Up for myTEIBAS.com!

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

Laser Eye Surgery

Effective May 1st, 2016, most laser eye surgery required to correct vision when performed by a licensed ophthalmologist will be covered for a lifetime maximum of \$2,000 per eye. It is strongly suggested that you submit an estimate/pre-determination to Great-West Life to ensure the procedure is covered.

Here at TEIBAS we have received many questions regarding cataract surgery. Although there may be laser procedure done during cataract surgery, laser expenses related to cataract surgery are not eligible under our plan. Consult with your doctor regarding costs related to cataract surgery and what is eligible under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP).

September Is Arthritis Awareness Month

Local 353 Members Claim Over \$1.4 million in Arthritis Drugs in 2015

Arthritis describes over one hundred conditions that affect joints, the tissues which surround joints, and other connective tissue. Arthritis sufferers face varying degrees of ongoing pain and stiffness around one or more joints.

Over 4.6 million Canadians report having arthritis. This number is expected to continue to grow and is estimated to cost over \$33 billion in health-care costs and lost productivity each year. By 2031, this number is expected to more than double to over \$67 billion.

Due to the constant movement and use of arms, wrists, bending of knees, electricians can develop arthritis. Claims related to arthritis are already impacting our Health and Welfare Plan, with over \$1.4 million in prescription drug claims related to arthritis claimed in 2015.

For more information on both preventing and managing arthritis: Log into myteibas.com and click on "myHealth" to check out Lifespeak's expert videos.

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 the 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 8:00am to 7:00pm

Critical Illness Benefits For Active Members

Active working members under age 65 who are not collecting a pension may be eligible for critical illness benefits if diagnosed with one of the specifically listed conditions in the policy (see sidebar). The listed condition must be diagnosed after May 1st, 2016, and the member must survive 30 days after the diagnosis (180 days for paralysis). Please note that some conditions have specific criteria and special claim forms.

In order to apply for this benefit, contact TEIBAS or the IBEW Local 353 Union Hall to request a critical illness application form. Forms will need to be completed and signed by either your family physician or the attending physician. All completed forms are to be returned to TEIBAS. Forms are then sent to CHUBB (insurance provider) for review and adjudication. CHUBB will contact the member directly with the decision on entitlement to CI benefits.

If you are diagnosed with any of these conditions after May 1 2016, you may be eligible:

- Alzheimer's Disease • Aorta Surgery • Benign Brain Tumour • Blindness • Cancer • Coma • Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery • Deafness • Dismemberment • Heart Attack • Heart Valve Replacement • Loss of Speech • Major Organ Failure • Major Organ Transplant • Motor Neuron Disease • Multiple Sclerosis • Occupational HIV • Paralysis • Parkinson's Disease • Severe Burns • Stroke

These additional benefits are also included: • Ductal Carcinoma in Situ (early stage breast cancer) • Early Prostate Cancer Treatment • Hip & Knee replacement surgery • Loss of Independence

Actuarial Valuation Filed with FSCO

The Board of Trustees has filed the 2015 Actuarial Valuation with the Financial Services Commission of Ontario (FSCO). This pension check-up must be performed by an actuary and filed with FSCO at least every three years. The next filing must be in 2019 (for the 2018 valuation) at the latest.

This Board of Trustees decision was made in the best interests of the plan members and allows us to re-start the three-year cycle. The valuation was prepared by Eckler Ltd., reflecting the amounts reported in the April newsletter and presented at the Special Called Meeting in April. In 2015, our plan had an investment return of 4.5%, bringing the total assets of the plan up to \$1.32 billion. The going concern liabilities are \$1.53 billion and as such, there remains a deficit of \$213.2 million which is amortized over 12 years.

As of December 31, 2015, the plan's transfer ratio was 52.4%. This means that if the plan had suddenly shut down on December 31, 2015, our pension fund would have held enough money to cover 52.4% of the total benefits earned by our active and retired members. Since our plan is registered as a Specified Ontario Multi-Employer Pension Plan (SOMEPP), we don't have to fund any hypothetical shortfall if it suddenly ended—a highly unlikely event. Instead, we only have to show we can continue to pay current and future pensions on a going concern basis. The transfer ratio does not have any impact on you unless you leave the trade and decide to withdraw your pension benefits—or if the plan ends—when the transfer ratio is less than 100%.

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:

If my child is over age 21, is she eligible for benefits?

If your child is between 21 and 24 years of age and attending an accredited post-secondary institution full-time in Ontario they may be eligible to remain covered under the IBEW Local 353 Benefit Plan. You must submit proof of enrollment or a completed "Declaration of Attendance at Post-Secondary Institution" form which is available for download at www.teibas.com. Please note that proof of enrollment is required every semester or school year.

I think my former spouse may still be my beneficiary. How do I confirm or change my beneficiaries on file?

Log into myteibas.com to review your named beneficiaries under myProfile. Fillable forms are available on the site should you wish to make changes. Just print, sign and have it witnessed, then mail it to us.

UPCOMING SEMINARS

If you are planning to retire in the near future or just want to learn more about your benefit and pension plan, please join us at one of our popular seminars held at the IBEW Local 353 South Union Hall located at 1377 Lawrence Ave East at 9:00am on the following dates:

September 24, 2016 – Pre-retirement Seminar (Age 60+)

October 22, 2016 – Retiree Seminar

November 5, 2016 – Active Member Benefit Seminar

November 19, 2016 – Pre-retirement Seminar (Age 60+)

Please RSVP by contacting TEIBAS at 416-637-6789 or by email at members@teibas.com

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Toronto **Electrical**
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Administrative **Services**

705 – 110 Sheppard Ave. East, Toronto, ON, M2N 6Y8
Tel: 416-637-6789

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.

