



Make an *informed* choice

Standing up for your pensions

Before the Community Care Access Centres (CCACs) were established in 1997, most of OPSEU's home care members were either directly employed by the health units or by the non-profit Victorian Order of Nurses.

In 1997 these employees were transferred to serve as direct employees of the CCACs, disqualifying them from continued participation in their old plans. The Ontario government recommended that they instead be enrolled in the Hospitals of Ontario Pension Plan (HOOPP). OPSEU's members were reassured by the province that if they went with HOOPP, the province would "ensure that employees suffered no pension losses as a result of the transfer." The government never followed through.

These members now belong to two pension plans rather than one. The net

effect of not having one continuous pension plan represents a loss of thousands of dollars over the years – something the province initially denied would happen.

OPSEU was the only union to proceed with a class action against the government over this claim.

Thanks to OPSEU's resources, the class-action suit was certified by the courts and is moving to trial. OPSEU is continuing with the discovery phase of the process and is exchanging documents with the government.

The pension issue is very important to the members affected by it. At OPSEU, we stand up for our members, and stand up for their issues. That's the biggest reason to belong to a union.

Questions? Please call 1-800-268-7376