Annual Report 2024

Extended Health Care Plan



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Letters of Transmittal



Her Honour the Honourable Bernadette McIntyre, S.O.M., Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I have the honour to transmit herewith the twenty-ninth Annual Report of the Extended Health Care Plan for the year ending December 31, 2024.

Honourable Jim Reiter

Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance

The Honourable Jim Reiter
Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance

May it Please Your Honour:

On behalf of the Joint Board of Trustees, I have the honour to transmit herewith the twenty-ninth Annual Report of the Extended Health Care Plan for the year ending December 31, 2024.

Peggy Atkinson, Chair Joint Board of Trustees

Extended Health Care Plan

Introduction

The Extended Health Care Plan was established on October 1, 1996.

The Fund is used to account for the transactions of the Extended Health Care Plan which provides health care benefits to PS/GE SGEU and CUPE 600 employees.

As at December 31, 2024, participation in the Plan has been approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council for all government organizations whose employees are employees of the Government of Saskatchewan as defined under *The Public Service Act, 1998,* and who are members of PS/GE SGEU or CUPE 600.

Joint Board of Trustees

Raelynn Douglas Ministry of Health

Peggy Atkinson, Chair Public Service Commission

Dave Morhart Ministry of Health

Kelly Hardy Public Service Commission

Andrea Lamont
Public Service Commission

Joella Moore
Public Service Commission

Saskatchewan Government and General Employees' Union (SGEU):

Carol Yuzik, Vice-Chair Tyler Bollinger Justin Priel Rajesh Godara

Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local No. 600:

Nancy Seman Vacant position

Participating Employers

The following employers participate in The Extended Health Care Plan:

With respect to employees who are members of the Saskatchewan Government and General Employees' Union (SGEU):

Advocate for Children and Youth (Office of The) Board of Arbitration under *The Surface Rights* Acquisition and Compensation Act (The) Farm Land Security Board Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority of Saskatchewan Information and Privacy Commissioner (Office of the) Ombudsman (Office of the) Plannera Pensions and Benefits Prairie Diagnostic Services Inc. Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan Public Interest Disclosure Commissioner (Office of the) Saskatchewan Milk Marketing Board Saskatchewan Municipal Board The Government of Saskatchewan with respect to members of the Public Service of Saskatchewan as defined under The Public Service Act, 1998

With respect to employees who are members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local No. 600:

The Government of Saskatchewan with respect to members of the Public Service of Saskatchewan as defined under *The Public Service Act, 1998*. With respect to employees who are members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local No. 600:

The Government of Saskatchewan with respect to members of the Public Service of Saskatchewan as defined under *The Public Service Act*, 1998.

Administration

The Plan was administered by the Public Employees Benefits Agency (PEBA) until December 31, 2023. Effective January 1, 2024, the Public Pension and Benefits Administration Corporation, operating as Plannera Pensions and Benefits (Plannera, the Corporation), began

managing the Plan. As per Order in Council #194-2024, the Government of Saskatchewan authorized PEBA to delegate the administration of the Plan to Plannera.

The Government of Saskatchewan has established a fund pursuant to *The Financial Administration Act, 1993,* for the purpose of providing benefits under the Plan. A Joint Board of Trustees, comprised of an equal number of management and union representatives, has been established and is responsible for reviewing the ongoing operations of the Plan.

The Plan pays a monthly premium to The Canada Life Assurance Company on behalf of employees. The Plan's risk is limited to the payment of the monthly premium as follows under the one-year contract effective January 1, 2024:

Single	\$78.30	per month
Couple	\$152.94	per month
Family	\$188.98	per month

Funding

Separate funding agreements are in effect for both PS/GE SGEU and CUPE 600 employees.

Funding for PS/GE SGEU members covered is:

- effective October 1, 1996, 1.03 per cent of straight time annual payroll to the fund on a monthly basis for payment of premiums of eligible employees;
- effective October 1, 2001, 1.28 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective October 1, 2006, 1.78 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective October 7, 2012, 1.79 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective October 6, 2013, 1.80 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective October 5, 2014, 1.82 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective October 4, 2015, 1.84 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective October 2, 2016, 1.86 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective October 1, 2017, 1.87 per cent of straight time annual payroll;

- contributions to the Benefit Plans' Surplus fund are:
 - effective September 30, 1996 0.07
 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective September 30, 1997 0.37
 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective October 1, 1999 0.47 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective October 1, 1999 lump sum contributions \$2.0 million;
- effective October 1, 2001 lump sum contributions \$3.5 million;
- effective October 1, 2004 lump sum contributions \$6.9 million;
- for the period December 1, 2004, to
 November 30, 2005, the Government and
 PS/GE SGEU decided to divert the
 0.25 per cent funding from the Retiree Plan
 to the PS/GE SGEU Benefits Plans' Surplus
 Fund. This amounted to \$1,013,682;
- effective August 1, 2007, to
 December 31, 2009, and extended to
 March 31, 2010, the 0.47 per cent SGEU
 Benefit Plans' Surplus Funding was
 redirected to the Public Employees
 Dental Plan; and
- effective June 28, 2013, SGEU arbitration settlement of \$8,561,193.

Funding for CUPE 600 members covered is:

- effective October 1, 1996, 1.08 per cent of straight time annual payroll to the fund on a monthly basis for payment of premiums of eligible employees;
- effective September 30, 1997 1.23 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective October 1, 2006 1.43 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective December 28, 2003, to
 December 31, 2004, additional contribution
 rates were \$11.54 per pay period for
 members paid bi-weekly and \$25.00 per pay
 period for members paid monthly.
- contributions to the Benefit Plans' Surplus fund are:
 - effective September 30, 1996 0.07
 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
 plus the amount required to make up the
 difference between contributions and the
 cost of monthly premiums for eligible

- employees, up to 0.15 per cent of straight time annual payroll;
- effective September 30, 1997 0.37 per cent of straight time payroll;
- effective December 20, 1999 0.82 per cent of straight time annual payroll; and
- effective January 1, 2005 lump sum contributions of \$748,070.

Benefits

An employee is eligible for benefits on the first day of the month of the pay period following a six-month period of employment.

Claims are paid on behalf of eligible family members and covers certain health and vision care benefits.

Management's Report

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

As members of management of the Extended Health Care Plan, we are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the following financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

The significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are fully and fairly disclosed in the financial statements.

The Extended Health Care Plan has a system of internal controls adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the accounts are faithfully and properly kept to permit the preparation of accurate financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

A Joint Board of Trustees, comprised of an equal number of management and union representatives, has been established and is responsible for reviewing the ongoing operations of the Plan.

Enclosed are the financial statements of the Extended Health Care Plan for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the Provincial Auditor's report on these financial statements.

Regina, Saskatchewan April 7, 2025 Jeremy Phillips

President and Chief Executive Officer Plannera Pensions and Benefits

Extended Health Care Plan

Financial Statements Year Ended December 31, 2024



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To: The Members of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Extended Health Care Plan, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024, and the statement of operations and changes in net financial assets and accumulated surplus, and statement of cash flow for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Extended Health Care Plan as at December 31, 2024, and the results of its operations, its changes in net financial assets, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Extended Health Care Plan in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in *The Extended Health Care Plan Annual Report for 2024*, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or any knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed on this other information, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact in this auditor's report. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards for Treasury Board's approval, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Extended Health Care Plan's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Extended Health Care Plan or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Extended Health Care Plan's financial reporting process.



Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Dobtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Extended Health Care Plan's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Extended Health Care Plan's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Extended Health Care Plan to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control identified during the audit.

Regina, Saskatchewan April 7, 2025 Tara Clemett, CPA, CA, CISA Provincial Auditor Office of the Provincial Auditor

Y. Clemeter

Extended Health Care Plan Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31

	2024				2023		
		Extended	PS/GE SGEU		CUPE		
	Н	ealth Care	Benefit Plans'	В	enefit Plans'		
		Fund	Surplus Fund	S	urplus Fund	Total	 Total
Financial Assets							
Cash (Note 3)	\$	2,911,249	\$ 27,243,137	\$	190,153	\$ 30,344,539	\$ -
Due from General Revenue							
Fund (Note 4)		-	-		-	-	29,579,666
Contributions Receivable		955,110	234,219		9,844	1,199,173	1,526,688
Other Receivables		8,374	85,091		570	94,035	 377,751
		3,874,733	27,562,447		200,567	31,637,747	 31,484,105
Liabilities							
A coounts Doughlo and							
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities		70 724				70 724	24.152
Accided Liabilities		70,724	-		-	70,724	 24,152
Net Financial Assets and							
Accumulated Surplus							
(Statement 2)	\$	3,804,009	\$ 27,562,447	\$	200,567	\$ 31,567,023	\$ 31,459,953

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

Statement of Operations and Change in Net Financial Assets and Accumulated Surplus

For The Year Ended December 31

	2024				2023	
		Extended	PS/GE SGEU	CUPE Benefit		
		Health Care	Benefit Plans'	Plans' Surplus		
	Budget	Fund	Surplus Fund	Fund	Total	Total
Revenues	(Note 7)					
Contributions (Note 1)	\$ 14,241,306	\$ 12,627,176	\$ 3,120,306	\$ 119,853	\$ 15,867,335	\$ 14,005,767
Interest Income (Note 3, Note 4)	1,441,104	131,340	1,335,992	9,054	1,476,386	1,410,664
, , ,	15,682,410	12,758,516	4,456,298	128,907	17,343,721	15,416,431
Expenses						
Insurance Premiums	15,610,804	16,070,425	-	-	16,070,425	13,639,305
Transfer to PEDF (Note 1)	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	1,000,000
Administration	164,023	166,226	-	-	166,226	140,830
	16,774,827	16,236,651	1,000,000	-	17,236,651	14,780,135
(Deficit) Surplus for the Year before the						
following:	(1,092,417)	(3,478,135)	3,456,298	128,907	107,070	636,296
Interfund Transfers (Note 1) (Statement 3)	-	5,480,000	(5,290,000)	(190,000)	-	-
Operating (Deficit) Surplus Net Financial Assets	(1,092,417)	2,001,865	(1,833,702)	(61,093)	107,070	636,296
and Accumulated Surplus, Beginning of Year	31,459,953	1,802,144	29,396,149	261,660	31,459,953	30,823,657
Net Financial Assets and Accumulated Surplus, End of Year						
(Statement 1)	\$ 30,367,536	\$3,804,009	\$ 27,562,447	\$ 200,567	\$ 31,567,023	\$ 31,459,953

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

For The Year Ended December 31

	2024				2023
	Extended Health Care Fund	PS/GE SGEU Benefit Plans' Surplus Fund	CUPE Benefit Plans' Surplus Fund	Total	Total
Cash Flow From (Used In) Operating Activities					
Contributions Received Interest Received Insurance Premiums Paid Administration Expense Paid Employer Payable Paid	\$ 12,888,608 138,116 (16,070,425) (144,272) 24,618	\$ 3,187,144 1,610,453 - -	\$ 119,098 11,533 - -	\$ 16,194,850 1,760,102 (16,070,425) (144,272) 24,618	\$ 13,984,979 1,307,812 (13,639,305) (144,331) 8,368
Cash Flow (Used In) From Operating Activities	(3,163,355)	4,797,597	130,631	1,764,873	1,517,523
Net (Decrease) Increase in Cash (2023 – Due From General Revenue Fund)	(3,163,355)	4,797,597	130,631	1,764,873	1,517,523
Interfund Transfers (Note 1) (Statement 2) Transfer to PEDF (Note 1)	5,480,000	(5,290,000) (1,000,000)	(190,000)	- (1,000,000)	- (1,000,000)
Cash (2023 - Due from General Revenue Fund),	2,316,645	(1,492,403)	(59,369)	764,873	517,523
Beginning of Year Cash (2023 - Due from General Revenue Fund), End of Year	\$ 2,911,249	28,735,540 \$ 27,243,137	\$ 190,153	29,579,666 \$ 30,344,539	29,062,143 \$ 29,579,666
Liiu oi feal	۶ ۷,۶۱۱,۷49	۶ ۲۱,۲45,137	\$ 190,153	ې ۵ <i>0,</i> ۵44,۵39	ع کعری کے روزور عام کے اور

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

Extended Health Care Plan Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

1. Description of the Plan

The Extended Health Care Plan (Plan) was established on October 1, 1996, pursuant to subsection 64(2) of *The Financial Administration Act, 1993*. The Plan provides extended health care benefits to certain unionized employees of the Government of Saskatchewan.

The Plan consists of the Extended Health Care Fund, the Saskatchewan Government and General Employees' Union (PS/GE SGEU) Benefit Plans' Surplus Fund and the Canadian Union of Public Employees', Local 600 (CUPE) Benefit Plans' Surplus Fund.

As per Order in Council #194-2024, the Government of Saskatchewan authorized Public Employees Benefits Agency (PEBA) to delegate the administration of the Plan to the Public Pension and Benefits Administration Corporation. Effective January 1, 2024, the Public Pension and Benefits Administration Corporation, operating as Plannera Pensions and Benefits (Plannera, the Corporation) began managing the Plan under the direction of the Joint Board of Trustees. The Joint Board of Trustees is made up of equal representation of union members and employers' representatives.

Extended Health Care Fund

The Extended Health Care Fund covers members from employers, whose participation in the Plan has been approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. The contribution rate is 1.87 per cent of regular payroll for PS/GE SGEU and 1.43 per cent of regular payroll for CUPE members. The contribution rates are established pursuant to PS/GE SGEU and CUPE collective bargaining agreements with the Government.

The Government, through the Minister of Finance, has entered into an agreement with an insurance company to provide eligible employees with extended health coverage. The Plan pays premiums for eligible employees to the insurance company as set out in the agreement. The Plan's risk is limited to the payment of these premiums.

Benefit Plans' Surplus Funds

The PS/GE SGEU Benefit Plans' Surplus Fund and the CUPE Benefit Plans' Surplus Fund (Surplus Funds) were established to meet the terms of the PS/GE SGEU and CUPE collective bargaining agreements with the Government. The Surplus Funds receive contributions on behalf of members from employers whose participation in the Plan has been approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. The contribution rates are as follows:

- 0.47 per cent of regular payroll of PS/GE SGEU members.
- 0.82 per cent of regular payroll of CUPE members.

The intent of the Surplus Funds is to offset cost increases of the benefit plans. Enhanced dental benefits are provided to PS/GE SGEU and CUPE members through the Public Employees Dental Fund (PEDF).

The Joint Board of Trustees authorized Plannera to use the net financial assets of the Surplus Funds each year in an amount equal to the Plan's deficit.

Accordingly, Plannera transferred to the Extended Health Care Fund \$190,000 (2023 - \$160,000) from the CUPE Benefit Plans' Surplus Fund, and \$5,290,000 (2023 – \$3,030,000) from the PS/GE SGEU Benefit Plans' Surplus Fund.

The Joint Board of Trustees also authorized Plannera to transfer adequate resources from the PS/GE SGEU Benefit Plans' Surplus Fund to the PEDF in order to provide enhanced dental benefits to participating SGEU members to December 31, 2024. Accordingly, Plannera transferred \$1,000,000 (2023 - \$1,000,000) from the PS/GE SGEU Benefit Plans' Surplus Fund to PEDF.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. These statements do not present a Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses as the Plan has no remeasurement gains or losses. The following accounting policies are considered significant:

a) Contributions

Contribution billings are done at the end of each month. Contributions are recognized as revenue when due.

b) Interest Revenue

Interest is recognized as income when earned.

c) Insurance Premiums

Insurance premiums are paid monthly. The monthly premiums are recognized as an expense when due

d) Financial Instruments

The Canadian Public Sector Accounting Handbook, Section 3450 establishes standards for recognizing and measuring financial assets and financial liabilities. The measurement basis depends on whether the financial assets or liabilities have been categorized in one of two measurement categories: fair value, or cost or amortized cost.

The Plan's financial assets include cash (2023 - Due from General Revenue Fund), contributions receivable and other receivables. The Plan's financial liabilities include accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The Plan has categorized and measured all its financial assets and financial liabilities at cost.

e) New Accounting Standards

Effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2023, certain new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations were adopted.

- i) PS 3400 Revenue
- ii) PS 3160 Public Private Partnerships
- iii) PSG-8 Purchased Intangibles

The adoption of these new and amended standards had no impact on the financial statements.

3. Cash

Effective January 1, 2024, the Plan's bank account was transitioned to Plannera's Master Client Agreement. As of January 1, 2024, the amount held in the Plan's bank account is classified as Cash.

Per Plannera's Master Client Agreement, interest is earned at a rate per annum equal to the daily value of Royal Bank Prime rate (RBP) less 1.90%. The average interest rate earned in 2024 was 4.85 per cent.

4. Due from General Revenue Fund

The Plan's bank account was included in the Consolidated Offset Bank Concentration arrangement for the Government of Saskatchewan until December 15, 2023, and remained under the Government of Saskatchewan's Financial Services Agreement until December 31, 2023.

The General Revenue Fund calculated interest earned and owed on a quarterly basis using the Government's thirty-day borrowing rate, and the Plan's average daily bank account balance. The Government's average thirty day borrowing rate in 2023 was 4.75 per cent.

5. Financial Risk Management

The nature of the Plan's operations results in a statement of financial position that consists primarily of financial instruments. The risk that arises from financial instruments is credit risk. The Plan is not exposed to market risk or liquidity risk as it does not hold any investments.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party does not pay funds owed to another party. The Plan's credit risk arises primarily from the following distinct sources:

	2024	2023	
Cash	\$30,344,539	\$ -	
Due from General Revenue Fund	-	29,579,666	
Contributions Receivable	1,199,173	1,526,688	
Other Receivables	94,035	377,751	

The maximum credit risk to which the Plan is exposed is limited to the carrying value of the financial assets summarized above.

The Plan is exposed to minimal credit risk from the potential non-payment of contributions and other receivables as these are receivables from government agencies and were collected shortly after year end. The cash (2023 - Due from General Revenue Fund) account is minimal risk as the funds are held in the Plan's own bank account. There has been no change in the risk exposure in 2024.

6. Related Party Transactions

Included in these financial statements are transactions with various Saskatchewan Crown corporations, ministries, agencies, boards and commissions related to the Plan by virtue of common control by the Government of Saskatchewan, as well as key management personnel and their close family members (collectively referred to as "related parties"). Related party transactions with the Plan are in the normal course of operations and are recorded at fair market value.

7. Budget

Plannera prepared the 2024 budget for approval by the Joint Board of Trustees. The budget was approved on January 30, 2024.