



Your Voice

MUN Pensioners Association (MUNPA) Newsletter

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More on MUNPA Expatriates Paying High Banking Fees

You will recall that last month we featured an article outlining the difficulties some pensioners face in accessing their pensions outside of Canada. Several suggestions came in as a result. One writer, living in Europe, suggests getting a Canadian bank account and having the MUN pension, OAS and CPP all deposited there. He then uses his bank card at an ATM that is part of the "Interac" or "Plus" system to withdraw cash in his local currency. He pays a \$5 fee per withdrawal but has arranged with his Canadian bank for a high withdrawal limit in order to minimize these fees.

Another member suggests using www.canadianforex.ca which will transfer Canadian dollars from a Canadian bank to U.S. dollars in a U.S. bank. He says the exchange rate is better than at a bank. Their minimum transfer is \$2,000. One advantage is that you can track exchange rates online and activate the transfer when the rate is best for you. Their fee is \$15 for transfers of less than \$10,000.

According to another member, CIBC allows customers to open U.S. dollar accounts. She telephones the bank periodically to have money transferred from her Canadian dollar account (where her pension is deposited) to her U.S. dollar account. She then arranges a transfer using her U.S. bank and pays \$10 per transfer regardless of size.

Beware of Computer Fraud

The department of Computing and Communications (C&C) at MUN sent out an a recent email to account holders that we are re-

producing here in case you missed it. C&C has received reports of computer service fraud where users at home have been contacted by fraudsters claiming to be IT support and, in some recent cases, even impersonating Memorial IT support. This type of scam tricks the user into infecting their computer with malware by going to an infected website and then requesting credit card information in return for the work they have completed on the computer. C&C will never ask for credit card information and clients should be careful not to disclose this type of information to unsolicited IT support. C&C does not support personally owned computers and under most circumstances will never contact you regarding your personally owned computer. Don't be a victim of fraud. Confirming that you are actually being contacted by C&C is as easy as calling 864-4595 or emailing help@mun.ca.

Computer Virus and Malware Protection

C&C has announced that the University is centrally funding the use of McAfee ePO Agent in compliance with the University's Electronic Data Security policy. As part of this initiative, they are making this software available for free for use on the home computers of faculty, staff, students and retirees. We will provide details as soon as they are available as to how you can download this software.

Lifelong Learning

Registration has opened for the Division of Lifelong Learning's fall 2011 personal and professional development classes and certificates.

Register early to guarantee your space.

Many of the division's classes are available to MUN and MI employees and retirees under the umbrella of professional and skills development.

All MUN and MI employees and retirees are eligible to apply for funding to attend such classes.

See:

www.mun.ca/humanres/forms/TRAINING.pdf

For more information about the division's fall offerings, call 864-7979 or see www.mun.ca/lifelonglearning

Contact MUNPA

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