

Welcome to another edition of GIDIP Disa-Bulletin. In this issue, your GIDIP Board of Trustees would like to provide some details on Reinstatement of GIDIP Benefits, Gradual Return to Work Plans, Nurse Practitioners and some additional information on the GIDIP plan.

REINSTATEMENT OF GIDIP BENEFITS

The purpose of the GIDIP plan is to support Members in times of need. Eligibility is based on premium payment the contract provisions.

When on an **approved** GIDIP claim, your GIDIP premiums are waived. If you will be absent from work for a period that is not a medically supported disability leave, we encourage you to prepay your premiums to the Plan Administrator to maintain your disability coverage.

Examples of leaves include:

- voluntary leave of absences
- parental leave
- care givers leave
- temporary work stoppage

If you do not maintain your GIDIP coverage, coverage will only be reinstated once you have actively and physically returned to work for 30 days without shift trades, sick days, or vacation, and premiums deductions have been made. If you are absent without permission and not on an approved GIDIP claim, your coverage would not be in force.

To prepay your premiums please contact the Plan Administrator at GIDIP@canben.com and pay your premium contributions within 30 days of the date such leave begins.

GRADUAL RETURN TO WORK PLANS

Returning to work is a beneficial part of the recovery process from a disability leave. When commencing a gradual return to work, Air Canada requires a return on a 5x2 schedule. Once your gradual return to work plan has been completed, you may bid a 4x3 shift. Shift trades, using overtime or taking vacation can be accessed after the completion of the gradual return to work plan. Changes to the gradual plan, or absence require medical support, which should be submitted to your Case Manager.

Please ensure that your treatment provider is aware of this required scheduling. To assist with the return-to-work discussion, a Gradual Return to Work form can be obtained from your Case Manager.

NURSE PRACTITIONERS

Attending Physician Statements (APS) and ongoing claim updates can be completed by Nurse Practitioners. Nurse Practitioner scope of practice varies by province and additional information may be requested from your treating Specialist.

GROUP INSURANCE DISABILITY INCOME PLAN (GIDIP)

Unifor Local 2002's Group Disability plan is called **GIDIP**. GIDIP stands for **Group Insurance Disability Income Plan**. The employer, Air Canada, has a Group Disability plan called GDIP which stands for Group Disability Income Plan. When reviewing information received from the employer, please ensure that you are accessing information on the correct plan.

If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Trustee or the Plan Administrator.

In Solidarity,
YOUR GIDIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Sophia Michailidis
Chairperson (Eastern Region)

Ross McConkey
Secretary/Treasurer
(Pacific Region)

Terry Carlucci
Trustee (Central Region)

Martin Melanson
Trustee (Atlantic Region)

Astrid Metzler
Trustee (Western Region)

Plan Administrator: Canadian Benefits Consulting Group
Telephone: 416-488-7755; Toll Free: 1-800-268-0285
Fax: 416-488-7774 Email: GIDIP@canben.com