



Natal Joint Municipal Pension
KwaZulu-Natal Joint Municipal
Provident Funds
"Your Fund, Your Savings, Your Future"



The Pensioner

April 2016

Message from the CEO / Principal Officer

I have pleasure in presenting the first Natal Joint Municipal Pension/ Provident Funds (NJMPF) update newsletter for 2016. We believe this year holds many new opportunities and challenges for the Fund. Below are key updates on Fund activities.

Fund wins International Awards

The Fund was recently announced the winner of two Capital Finance International (CFI) Awards for Best Retirement Services RSA 2016 and Best Corporate Governance Pension Funds RSA 2016. London based CFI through its leading economic journalists provides news, analysis and commentary on the markets worldwide via its magazine publications and website.



Sam Camilleri (CEO/ Principal Officer), pictured with the two International Awards

Contributors to CFI include the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the United Nations. Each year, CFI seeks out individuals and organisations that contribute significantly to the convergence of economies and meaningful value add for all stakeholders. The Awards Programme aims to reward excellence wherever it may be found to inspire others to further improve their own performance. This is the first time a South African Retirement Fund has won in these two categories and we believe it is an exceptional achievement for South Africa, KwaZulu-Natal and Durban.

New Interactive Website

On the 01 April 2016, the Fund launched its new interactive website; the website will enable Pensioners to have direct access to their Pensioner profile and many other relevant features. The website (www.njmpf.co.za) is covered in more detail on the attached factsheet.

Update on Medical Aid Deductions

The Fund has a facility to deduct medical aid contributions for the following medical aid schemes: Bonitas, Hosmed, LA Health, SAMWU Med and Key Health. A signed letter by the Pensioner with his/ her membership number, name of the scheme and amount to be deducted is required from the pensioner to approve the deductions. Please note that if your pension is suspended due to non-submission of a declaration form, your medical aid contribution cannot be deducted until your pension has been reinstated, so it is important that you submit your declaration form in time to avoid suspension of both your monthly pension and medical aid deductions. For further details regarding medical aid deductions please contact our Client Services section on 031 279 5300 or send an email to info@njmpf.co.za.

Rationalisation Bill

For a number of years, the Fund has been working with the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs to rationalise the rules and regulations of the Superannuation and Retirement Funds. The Fund is pleased to announce that the Rules Amendment Bills were approved by cabinet in November 2015 and have been published for public comment. A letter drafted by the Fund's legal adviser has been distributed to members, pensioners, municipal managers and the South African Local Government Association informing them about the Rationalisation Bill update of laws. For copies of the Bills, please visit our website on www.njmpf.co.za or contact our Client Services section on 031 279 5300.

Humour

Julia tells her Husband: - "James, that young couple that just moved in next door seems such a loving couple. Every morning, when he leaves the house, he kisses her goodbye. Every evening when he comes home, he brings her a dozen roses. Now, why can't you do that?" "Gosh, why?" James says, "I hardly know that girl".

Source: www.LaughBreak.Com





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Older Persons Grants

In South Africa, social assistance is subject to means testing, which implies that the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) evaluates the income and assets of the person applying for a social grant in order to determine whether the person's means are below a stipulated amount. This means test determines whether a person qualifies to receive a grant, as social assistance is currently for those who have insufficient means to support themselves.

Requirements for the Social Welfare Grant

- You must be a South African citizen, permanent resident or refugee.
- Must live in South Africa.
- Must be over 60 years of age or older.
- You and your spouse must meet the requirements of the means test.
- You must not be maintained or cared for in state funded institutions e.g. prison, rehabilitation centre or state old age home.
- You must not receive another social grant.

Where do I apply for a Grant?

- You apply at the local SASSA office nearest to where you live.

For more information about the Social Security Grant, you can contact SASSA on: www.sassa.gov.za or call them on 0800601011.

RMEA

Retired Municipal Employees Association - KZN (RMEA) is a voluntary organisation established in 1982, which represents all municipal pensioners from KwaZulu-Natal, both at local and a national level. RMEA also offers individual advice to members, widows and their families with regard to pension and medical aid matters. The management committee of the association is made up of municipal retirees, being elected on a rotation basis at the association's Annual General Meeting (AGM) – usually held in Durban, during the month of May each year. There are two types of membership; **Annual** and **Life Membership**. The preferred, for most pensioners is the Annual Membership which presently costs R2 per month (deducted each year in November as one amount of R24) and Life Membership R250 (once off, cheque, bank cash deposit or EFT transfer). If pensioners/retirees would like more information, they may contact the RMEA Secretary, Trevor Rubelli via Telephone: 082 483 7920 or 031 564 2909 (home) or by Fax: 086 624 6984, E-mail: RMEAss@gmail.com, or by mail, Postal Address: P.O. Box 701422, Overport, 4067.

Financial Literacy

Many pensioners are experiencing pressure with the increases in the cost of living (petrol price increase, inflation and electricity price increase). According to a recent article;

"It's a monthly struggle for many senior citizens to make do with their pensions. Pensioners say they're battling to make ends meet with many still forced to turn over every cent to get them through the month. Government currently provides more than 3 million elderly people with a monthly pension grant of R1, 400. Those over 75 years receive an extra R20."

During such tough economic times the quick tips below may help you achieve more with your money.

- Look out for pensioner days at supermarkets that offer pensioner discounts on groceries and basic food items.
- Always look for rebates when making major purchases.
- Use rewards cards from shops that offer rewards.
- First pay for things you need, then buy the things that you want if you can afford them.

Nothing in this newsletter is purported to be financial advice. The advice from a certified financial planner should always be sought when making decisions which affect or have an impact on your financial future.

Below are the 2016 pay dates for pensioners

Month	Pay Date
Jan-16	29
Feb-16	26
Mar-16	31
Apr-16	29
May-16	31
Jun-16	30
Jul-16	29
Aug-16	31
Sep-16	30
Oct-16	28
Nov-16	30
Dec-16	22

