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Memo #38

Date: April 6, 2017

To: Executive/Members

Re: **Manulife Benefits – Online Billing, National Day of Mourning, CUPE 2073, Toronto Zoo Workers**

Manulife Benefits: Online Billing

If you wish to take advantage of online claims through Manulife, please note the following:

- Sign up for direct deposit
- Go into My Claims
- Click on Claims – on the top row
- Click on online claims
- Confirm Banking and Contact Information – you will need to add a phone number.
- Select Provider and Select Patient
- Identify if patient is covered under another plan
- Click Continue
- Add a service provider
- Submit expenses/claim information. **(You can't do this ahead of time!)**

You will have to do this for all services that can't be done through direct billing.

For direct billing, you will need to provide your plan # and ID # to your service provider. Not all service providers use the direct billing option.

For massage, you will be required to fill in: name, name of clinic, address, city, province, postal code, phone number and registration number.

But for dental there is a search option based upon a phone number and postal code.

You may also have to add this information for each patient. For example, dental information once completed will require a click to add it for dependents and/or spouse.

My Drug Plan

I have been notified that if teachers are using the “My Drug Plan” option within our new benefit plan's (www.otip.com) website, that the cost that is being generated is not accurate.

If you put in a drug name or DIN, and identify the patient (yourself, or other dependent) it will generate a cost for the plan and a cost for the user. However, there is full drug coverage for any drug on the formulary.

National Day of Mourning

The National Day of Mourning, held annually in Canada on April 28, is dedicated to remembering those who have lost their lives, or suffered injury or illness on the job due to a work-related tragedy.

Working people fought long and hard for their right to safe and healthy work, and yet too many still are killed, injured or made ill by hazardous work. We remember them April 28.

On this day and every day however, Workers Health & Safety Centre joins with health and safety advocates to rededicate ourselves to supporting prevention measures based on fundamental worker rights.

Every year, WHSC helps promote Day of Mourning (DOM) events organized by constituent labour councils in communities across Ontario. This year's campaign message encourages workers and their representatives to "Prevent worker disability, disease and death. Demand what works!"

A National Day of Mourning was first recognized by the Canadian Labour Congress in 1984 to raise public awareness of worker injury, illness and death. More than 100 countries now observe a Day of Mourning.

Every day of the year

- educate others about health and safety rights, responsibilities and prevention measures
- insist on effective workplace prevention programs developed with full worker participation
- insist on training that supports the identification, assessment and control of workplace hazards
- press elected officials to support stronger regulations and better enforcement of existing laws

CUPE 2073

Workers from the Canadian Hearing Society (CUPE 2073) are on their third week of strike across Ontario. Their story is a terrible one: no contract for 4 years, proposed freeze for another 2 years and major roll backs to health benefits and sick leave while executives continue to receive pay increases. They have dealing with an employer who refuses to bargain. To add insult to injury, many of the workers are Deaf, Oral Deaf, Deafened or Hard of Hearing, and almost 90% of the members are women. #Shame

Please use the following link to show your support:

<https://cupe.ca/workers-deaf-community-across-ontario-need-your-help>

Toronto Zoo Workers

Members of CUPE 1600, Toronto Zoo Workers, are currently bargaining. They are aware that teachers might be planning field trips to the zoo in the coming months, the union has alerted us that a strike or lockout could be implemented sometime this spring. If this happens, service at the zoo will be impacted and teachers would have to cross a picket line to enter. Teachers are strongly encouraged to consider other activities in support of our union brother and sisters.

If you have any concerns, please contact the Unit office at 705-733-9625 or 1-800-558-4815

Thank you for sharing this information with OECTA members.