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**Memo #49**

**Date: June 20, 2017**

**To: Executive/Members**

**Re: Benefits; Local PD Presenters; National Aboriginal Day**

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**Benefits**

Sun Life Claims

Simcoe Muskoka members had 3 months to submit claims made to our Sun Life Benefit plan (re: benefit expenses incurred before April 1, 2017) – after that three-month period (after June 30<sup>th</sup>) the claims will not be paid.

Benefit Services

Members should be encouraged to first contact our Benefit Services department for assistance with claims decisions, enrolment issues, and coverage inquiries, and/or are dissatisfied with a decision and/or response they received from OTIP.

The OTIP Benefit Services team has the appropriate escalation and appeal processes in place to assist members.

**Examples:**

- Enrolment issues / concerns
- Medical Underwriting questions
- Coverage eligibility
- Administration questions
- Prior Authorization – Private duty nursing, prescriptions that were previously paid through prior carrier
- Claims adjudication – Claim decline, and/or cut back
- Customer Service concerns

**Benefit Services Contact Information**

- Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- 1-866-783-6847
- Email - [www.otip.com/contactus](http://www.otip.com/contactus) or through the My Claims site
- Enrolment Assistance – Direct members to their welcome kit / enrolment email or [www.otip.com/loginhelp](http://www.otip.com/loginhelp)
- [www.otip.com/enrol](http://www.otip.com/enrol) takes members directly to the log in page or a member can just type in [www.otip.com](http://www.otip.com) and click on log in at the top right hand corner and select ‘health and dental’.

## **Local PD Presenters**

We have been in our local Unit Office for a year, and we have been able to set up and hold several different meetings. It is now time to use this wonderful space to provide some Professional Development to the members of Simcoe Muskoka Elementary.

Last year the Professional Development Committee sent out a survey to the membership, requesting their input around types of PD and when a best time it can be offered. The results were that teachers wanted some PD on the following:

- **The Arts**
- **Extending the Classroom using Online Tools**
- **Combined Grades**
- **Kindergarten**
- **Meeting the Needs of the English Language Learner**
- **How to Assess Religious Education**
- **Wellness**
- **Adding Variety to the Classroom**

We may be able to access some presenters from our Provincial PD team, but I feel the best approach is to use our local teachers to demonstrate their great ideas and best practices.

Therefore, if you are willing to provide some PD on one of the above topics, then could you please submit the following to: [kent.macdonald@oectasm.ca](mailto:kent.macdonald@oectasm.ca)

- a workshop outline (2 hour evening PD session),
- a letter explaining why you are suitable for this position

If selected, you will be provided with either a half-day or full-day release to plan and organize your PD session.

## **National Aboriginal Day – June 21, 2017**

As Canada celebrates National Aboriginal Day, Catholic teachers are pleased to recognize the heritage and contributions of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit communities.

This year's event is especially meaningful, as there is optimism that the country is finally prepared to acknowledge the truth about our history and begin making amends. Catholic teachers are eager to play our part, by infusing the curriculum with Indigenous history and perspectives, and creating safe spaces for constructive learning and dialogue.

We hope that Canadians will take this day as an opportunity to continue developing understanding and forging genuine reconciliation.

For more info follow this link: <https://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100013248/1100100013249>

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