



## Research Pension Plan

ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBERSHIP  
JULY 2018

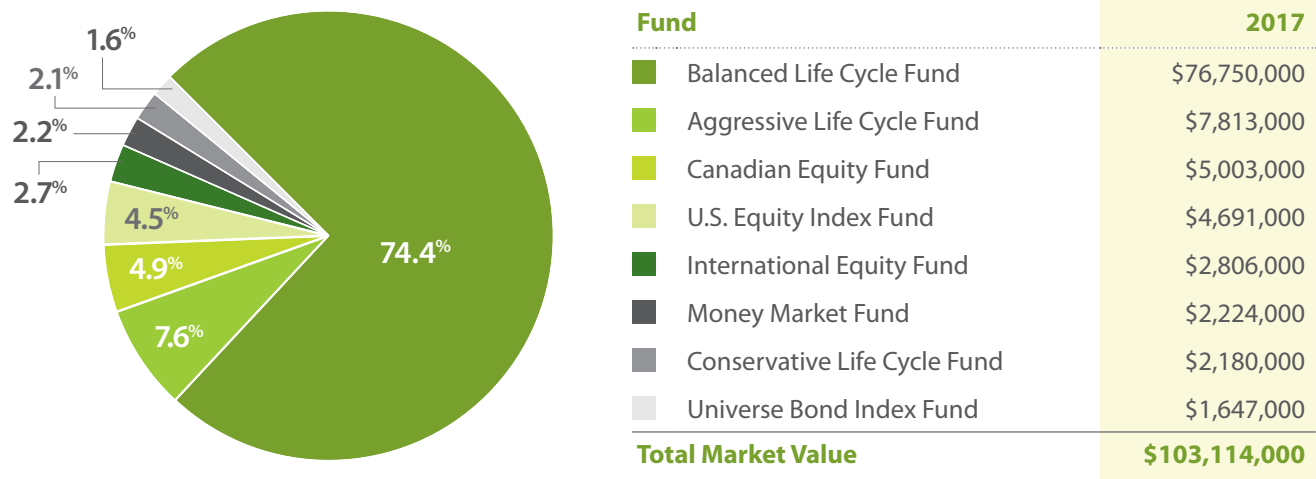


The primary purpose of this report is:

- to review investments and investment performance of the Plan in 2017
- to provide membership data information
- to report on the activities of the Research Pension Plan Committee

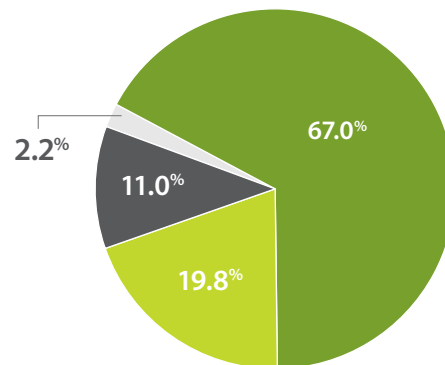
# Pension Plan Information at December 31, 2017

## MARKET VALUE OF PENSION PLAN ASSETS



## Distribution of Assets Among Investment Managers

Investment Manager	2017
BlackRock Asset Management	\$69,109,000
Mawer Investment Management	\$20,450,000
Triasima	\$11,331,000
Sun Life – Money Market	\$2,224,000



## ALLOCATING MEMBER FUNDS AMONG VARIOUS INVESTMENT OPTIONS

As Plan members have differing risk preferences, the Plan makes several investment options available to members. These options allow members to select segregated funds with a mix of underlying assets that meet their investment needs.

The investment risk profile, provided on the Sun Life member website ([mysunlife.ca](http://mysunlife.ca)), helps to determine the type of investor you are, and provides information to help you understand risk, the benefits of diversification and develop an investment mix to match your goals.



Members are responsible to review periodically the portfolio structure of their participation in the Plan and to revise it as appropriate given their needs.

## INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

The following is a summary of the Plan's annual investment performance as at December 31, 2017 exclusive of Plan expenses:

Investment Performance by Fund	2017	Last 4 years
<b>Money Market</b>		
Return	0.8%	0.7%
Benchmark	0.6%	0.7%
<b>Bond Fund</b>		
Return	2.5%	4.1%
Benchmark	2.5%	4.1%
<b>Conservative Life Cycle Fund</b>		
Return	5.0%	5.7%
Benchmark	4.7%	5.5%
<b>Balanced Life Cycle Fund</b>		
Return	10.0%	8.8%
Benchmark	9.3%	8.4%
<b>Aggressive Life Cycle Fund</b>		
Return	12.6%	10.3%
Benchmark	11.6%	9.9%
<b>Canadian Equity</b>		
Return	7.7%	6.8%
Benchmark	9.1%	7.6%
<b>U.S. Equity</b>		
Return	13.8%	16.6%
Benchmark	13.8%	16.7%
<b>International Equity Fund</b>		
Return	24.1%	12.0%
Benchmark	18.8%	9.2%

The benchmark portfolios for each of the funds have been determined using the actual returns of the market indexes such as the FTSE TMX 91-Day Treasury Bills, the FTSE TMX Universe Bond Index, the S&P/TSX Capped Composite Index, Standard and Poor's 500 U. S. Stock Index and Morgan Stanley's Europe, Australia and Far East Index.



Please contact the Pensions and Benefits Office at 306-966-6633 or any member of the Research Pension Plan Committee if you have any questions about the items covered in this newsletter.



## Membership Data at December 31, 2017

Active Members



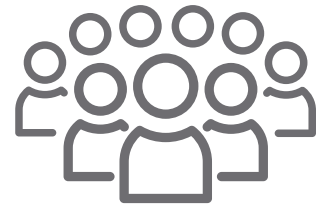
870

Other Members



419

Total Membership



1,289



# Education and Communication to Members

As part of the ongoing education and communication strategy, the committee organized several information sessions presented by Sun Life, including:

- three enrolment and investment information sessions
- three interactive investment workshops, in February 2018 to familiarize members with the structure of the Plan and the principles of building an investment portfolio, respectively.

The Committee also organized three retirement planning workshops presented by Sun Life in February 2018, as well as one-on-one consultation sessions with a qualified Sun Life Retirement Specialist to offer in-person individual pre-retirement support to the members.



## DID YOU KNOW?

The University of Saskatchewan offers a Group Retirement Fund through Sun Life Financial to plan members. When the time comes to convert your retirement savings to retirement income, you can choose to direct your money to this U of S customized Prescribed Retirement Income Fund (PRIF). You can choose to invest your saving in the same great investment funds that were available to you as an active plan member and you will continue to benefit from the same low investment management fees. You can also enjoy access to licensed Retirement Consultants at no cost to you.



# Research Pension Committee

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### Plan Member Representatives

- **Keith DeMong**, Canadian Light Source
- **Lorne Vanin**, VIDO
- **Olena Schemenauer**, Northern Medical Services

### Board of Governor Representatives

- **Steve Laycock**, Finance and Resources
- **Heather Fortosky**, Finance and Resources
- **Timothy Beke**, Finance and Resources

## MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Research Pension Plan Committee met 4 times during the year. Acting in its capacity as managing fiduciary; the Committee is responsible for the oversight of the Research Pension Plan operations, including investments, administration, and overall governance of the Plan. The Committee activities over the past year in fulfilling these responsibilities are outlined in the following table.

	June 13, 2018	March 2, 2018	Nov. 17, 2017	Sept. 15, 2017
	3.0 hours	2.5 hours	2.5 hours	3.0 hours
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Financial Statements to Dec. 31, 2017</li> <li>■ Quarterly Investment Performance Review to March 31</li> <li>■ Annual Newsletter Review</li> <li>■ Investment Presentation: Sun Life Financial</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Quarterly Investment Performance Review to Dec. 31</li> <li>■ Investment Manager Presentation: Mawer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Quarterly Investment Performance Review to Sept. 30</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Quarterly Investment Performance Review to June 30</li> <li>■ Investment Manager Presentation: BlackRock</li> <li>■ Investment Manager Presentation: Triasima</li> </ul>

# Research Pension Plan Information

## PLAN DOCUMENTS

Copies of the following documents are on file in the Pension and Benefits office (People and Resources). They are available for inspection by any member of the Plan during regular working hours by prior arrangements.

- Plan Text
- Financial Statements
- Auditor's Report
- Committee meeting agendas and minutes

## SUN LIFE

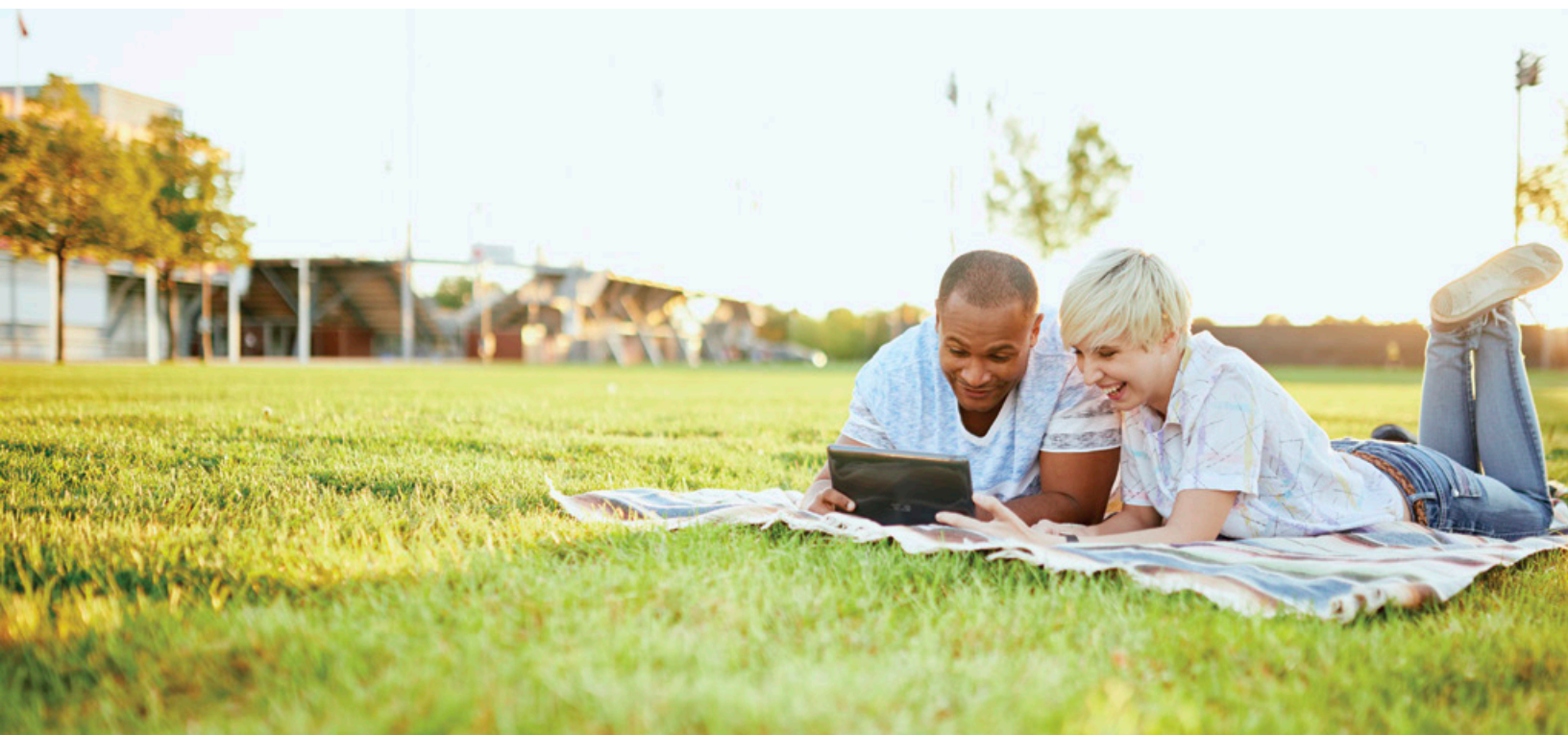
Sun Life Financial Members can view the following at their website: [www.mysunlife.ca](http://www.mysunlife.ca)

- Investment risk profile
- Investment performance information
- Account balance
- Asset allocation and transaction decisions
- Quarterly statements

## OTHER AGENTS OF THE PLAN

**Investment Consultant:** Aon Hewitt

**Record Keeper:** Sun Life Financial





# USASK PENSION



## PENSION ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

Pension and Benefits Office, Finance and Resources  
Room E180, Administration Building  
105 Administration Place  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A2

Tel: 306-966-6633

Email: [pensions.inquiries@usask.ca](mailto:pensions.inquiries@usask.ca)

Web: [www.usask.ca/fsd/faculty\\_staff/pension\\_plans](http://www.usask.ca/fsd/faculty_staff/pension_plans)



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