



Pension Advisory Committee Representative

Annual Report to VIUFA

2023

Plan Performance

According to the Trustees' Report of March 2023, the College Pension Plan's one year return as of September 30th, 2022 was -3.03% against a benchmark of -7.50%. The 5-year return is 7.31%, which is above the benchmark of 5.19%.

	Performance	Benchmark
One year	-3.03%	-7.50%
Five year	7.31%	5.19%

Cost of Living Adjustment

A cost-of-living adjustment of 6.5% was awarded to retirees, effective January 1st, 2023.

Liquidity: 15 months.

Liquidity refers to the amount of time the plan can provide pension payments without liquidating any assets in the event cash flow into the plan were to stop. The fund should normally have 12 to 18 months of liquidity on hand.

Socially Responsible Investing and the College Pension Plan

The College Board has created an ESG working group to review the Board's view of ESG and develop strengthened ESG language. The work is ongoing. All the FPSE appointed trustees are on the working group. In the Fall, BCI issued a new Climate Action Plan. The document is available from the BCI website. That document will figure in the deliberations of the working group.

Over the past year, a PAC sub-committee on Socially Responsible Investing and the College Pension Plan prepared its third tri-annual report. The Executive Summary of the Report states:

This report is divided in three parts. First, we look into what BCI has done regarding ESG and climate change actions in recent years. Secondly, we provide evidence from two independent reports that BCI's record is not particularly good among other major Canadian pension plans on ESG issues. Finally, we take a look at what is happening in Europe and the US. We conclude by reinstating our desire for improvements from BCI on the ESG front. We also questioned BCI's refusal to commit to divestment and encourage FPSE to continue to put pressure on BCI on such questions.

If you would like a copy of the full report, please email me and I can forward that to you:
Scott.Priestman@viu.ca.

Trustees

The College Pension Plan elects 4 Trustees (3 active members, 1 retired one) to represent our plan at the wider BCI meetings. One of our trustees, Candace Fertile, will be stepping down once her term is up August 31, 2023. The process for electing a new trustee is underway.

Respectfully submitted by

Scott Priestman

April, 2023