

Welcome to another edition of GIDIP Disa-Bulletin.

In this issue, Your GIDIP Board of Trustees' focus is to highlight GIDIP Plan Design improvements.

## LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (EI) SICKNESS BENEFITS AND THE GIDIP PLAN DESIGN

In our November 2022 Disa-Bulletin, we advised that the Federal Government is extending Employment Insurance (EI) sickness benefits from 15 to 26 weeks. This change took effect for all disabilities occurring on or after December 18, 2022. Due to this recent legislative change, your Trustees and the Plan Administrator have been negotiating various plan design improvements with the insurer.

As a result of these negotiations, we are pleased to announce that the GIDIP plan has been enhanced for our membership as follows:

	Current Plan	New Plan
Elimination period	1 week	1 week
STD Phase I	15 weeks	26 weeks
EI	15 weeks	26 weeks
STD Phase II	21 weeks	20 weeks
LTD	After 52 weeks	After 73 weeks

This improvement provides 10 additional weeks of **non-taxable** STD benefits for our membership. The Board of Trustees are happy to confirm that **there are no changes to Members' contributions** for these improved benefits. The Trustees will closely monitor the emerging financial experience as a result of these improvements which will be shared with you.

If this change impacts your current STD Phase I claim, your disability case manager will reach out shortly to advise you. If you have any questions regarding your current claim, please contact your disability case manager.

The Trustees continue to work to provide protection to our members during their time of crisis resulting from a short or an extended period of disability. You can rest assured that this plan provides wage security when you need it, and will allow you to live in dignity and maintain your same standard of living while sick as when working.

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 Customer Journey Mgr. – CJM;  
 Ottawa Airport – YOW  
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