W.R.D.S.B. EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION

eUpdate

The Latest Information to Keep YOU Informed

In this eUpdate:

- Wonderful Benefits News for Before and After School Extended Day Members
- OTIP - Virtual Appointments Update
- EAA: YOUR EXECUTIVE



Thursday, April 9, 2020

Good afternoon:

I hope that everyone is staying home and keeping well. It has been a very hectic week as new information comes forward on a daily basis. I applaud all of

our Members for participating in the online training and being patient and flexible as we navigate through the coming days.

Wonderful Benefits News for Before and After School Extended Day Members

With the postponement of the before and after school Extended Day Program, our Members in this program will not be receiving pay after Friday, April 17, 2020. Not only will they not be paid, but their benefits were to be impacted, whereby their premium payments were to go up.

I reached out to our EWAO-ATEO Benefits Committee last week in this regard and was hoping to have the premium increases waived. Well, after numerous phone calls and emails with the Benefits Committee, our Board and OTIP, I have wonderful news to share. Our EWAO-ATEO Benefits Committee has instructed OTIP to maintain benefits as per current arrangements for the period of April 17, 2020 to August 31, 2020, inclusively, for the Members of our Association who currently have benefits and whose hours have been reduced due to the closure of the Before and After School Extended Day Program. So what this means is that the 230 Members impacted will not be experiencing premium increases. Premium increases will be paid for by our Benefits Trust Plan. Ultimately this decision was made unanimously today by the Benefits Committee. The Board has been extremely helpful in supplying me with all the data I needed in order to transfer pertinent information over to the Committee. They needed to understand the financial impact this would have on our Members, not to mention whether our Members had enough hours (17.5) to still be on the plan. I am very grateful that this has worked out.

The l o n g weekend is upon us. I wish everyone a Happy Easter. It will certainly be a different weekend for all of us. It is important that we take time for self-care and supporting our own physical and mental health needs. We are all caregivers by nature and need to remember ourselves.

Wishing you many bright blessings and continued good health,

Colleen Dietrich Sisson
President - EAA



OTIP - Virtual Appointments Update

Dear Members,

Here is an expanded list of the other types of paramedical services that could be available through our Extended Health Benefits:

- Audiologist
- Chiropractor
- Dietician
- Naturopath
- Occupational Therapist
- Optometrist
- Physiotherapist
- Clinical Counsellor
- Marriage & Family Therapist
- Psychoanalyst
- Psychologist
- Psychotherapist
- Social Worker
- Speech Therapist

Once again, please note that guidelines around the type of services allowed as well as specific protocols in providing virtual therapy are variable by governing body, thus we strongly recommend that members speak with their professional to get clarification on the specific services they can render online.

If you have any questions about your plan, reach out to OTIP 1-866-783-6847 with your plan or policy number. You can also get more information through their website www.otip.com.

I wish you good health and happiness as we head into the Easter Weekend.

Sincerely,
Lisa

Lisa Weiler Haskins
Vice President
Educational Assistants Association

Find all the info you need!

EAA: YOUR EXECUTIVE

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