



December 21, 2020

PWU Staff Union EHB Improvements Dec 2020

The PWU Staff Union negotiated a new three-year agreement with the PWU in late October. The agreement was ratified by the membership in November. The following changes to the Extended Health Benefits Plan are also applicable to RWC members. Changes came into effect on November 1, 2020.

HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN

The employer will ensure that Green Shield uses an up to date "Reasonable and Customary" process.

Registered Clinical Psychologist/Psychotherapy - Include **Social Worker** increase from 20 to **24** visits - No Maximum (see below)

Registered Masseur Services - Increase from \$1,000/year to **\$1,100**/person/year.

Vision (Repairs/ Contacts) - Increase from \$675 to **\$700** effective November 1, 2020 (24 Month Period)

NEW - COMPOUND DRUGS

The PWU President can authorize the coverage of compound drugs on a case-by-case basis with the advice of the PWU Physician.

"No Maximum" explanation.

The Green Shield Canada (GSC) claims system indicates that the "usual" "reasonable and customary" limit does NOT apply, and that the plan pays "price per rendered". In other words, the plan will pay out whatever cost is submitted.

HOWEVER, there is an "upper limit" on how much each practitioner will receive which is as follows:

Psychologist: \$430 for initial visit, \$400 per subsequent hour

Psychotherapist: \$250 per hour

MSW: \$280 per hour

Social Worker/Counselor: \$270 per hour

Peter Kelly
President
Retired Workers' Chapter