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SECTION: Plan Advisory Committees (Members)

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TITLE: Purpose

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*Note: Where this policy conflicts with the Financial Services Commission of Ontario Act, 1997, S.O. 1997, c. 28 (FSCO Act), Pension Benefits Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.8 (PBA) or Regulation 909, R.R.O. 1990 (Regulation), the FSCO Act, PBA or Regulation govern.*

*Note: The electronic version of this policy, including direct access to all linked references, is available on FSCO's website at [www.fSCO.gov.on.ca](http://www.fSCO.gov.on.ca). All pension policies can be accessed from the **Pensions** section of the website through the **Pension Policies** link on the left side of each page.*

**A consultant asks: What is the purpose of an Advisory Committee? Is one required?**

When pension plan members do not have direct involvement in the administration of a plan, establishment of an Advisory Committee provides a more formal structure for plan members and former members to monitor the administration of the plan and fund, recommend changes to the plan administrator, and generally promote awareness and understanding of the plan to members and those receiving benefits from it. It isn't required, but if members decide to establish such a committee, each class of employees in the plan as well as former members, are entitled to have a representative.