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SECTION: Access to Information

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*Taken from the "Your Questions Answered" column published in the PCO Bulletin. Please see the disclaimer at the beginning of the directory.*

**As a member of a pension plan that is registered under the Pension Benefits Act (the "PBA"), should I automatically receive an annual statement that provides information about my pension benefits or must I request a statement?**

The administrator of a pension plan must provide each plan member with an annual written statement that contains specific information about the plan and the member's benefits under the plan. Members are not required to request an annual statement nor does the Act permit members to waive their entitlement to receive an annual statement.

The administrator must comply with section 27 of the PBA which provides that, "The administrator of a pension plan shall transmit annually to each member a written statement containing the prescribed information in respect of the pension plan, the member's pension benefits and any ancillary benefits." There are other sections of the PBA which also provide for the provision of a written statement to members.

In addition, the administrator must also provide a written statement which contains specific information when a member terminates employment, retires or dies.

Please refer to the article published in the August 1993 issue of the *PCO Bulletin*, page 1, entitled "*Staying Informed: A Member's Right to Information*". This appears under the Policy Index No. I150-800, which is entitled "Member's Right to Information: Annual Statements, Termination Statements, Notices".