

# RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY: THE PRIVATE SECTOR

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## AGENDA

- Existing Private Pension Landscape in Canada
- Why have Workplace DB Plans Declined?
- Better outcomes are possible





# The Existing Private Pension Landscape



**Only 37.5% of workers have workplace pensions**

**DB**  
**25.2%**

**DC**  
**6.7%**

**“Other”**  
**(e.g. Hybrid Plans)**  
**5.6%**

**In 1977, coverage was 52%**



## Public Vs. Private Sector Coverage

**Public Sector Coverage is 88% of workers**

■ 80% have DB

**Private Sector Coverage is 23.0%**

■ 9.5% DB

■ 7.5% DC

■ 6.0% "Other"

**Leads to Pension Envy**





## Integration of Private DB Plans with C/QPP



C/QPP Tier I pays a 25% pension after 39 years



Stops at Year's Maximum Pensionable Earnings



YMPE is approx. the Average Industrial Wage



A Common Integrated DB plan accrued 1.3% to YMPE and 2% above that per year of service



With C/QPP Tier II, many plans now going to flat constant accrual rate (not integrated)





# **Why have Workplace DB Plans Declined?**



## Why the Decline in DB Coverage?



Increased Longevity



Low rates of investment return



New Accounting Standards



Including Mark to Market



All  
Create  
Volatile  
& Higher  
Costs







## Private Sector Response is sub-optimal



**DC Plans including Group RRSPs**



**Assistance in setting up Individual CAPs**



**Nothing**





## Problems with most Individual Capital Accumulation Plans (CAP)



Increased Longevity



Low rates of Investment Return



Volatility of Investment Returns



Two Market Crises



Expensive Life Annuities





## CAP plans Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSPs)



Contributions are Tax Deductible



Investment Gains are not taxable until taken



Money when Withdrawn is Taxable Income



The RRSP Contribution Limit is \$27,830 (2021)



You must start withdrawing funds at age 71





## CAP plans Tax Free Savings Accounts (TFSA)



Contributions are After Tax



Investment Gains are not taxable until taken



Money when Withdrawn is not Taxable Income



The TFSA Contribution Limit is \$ 6,000 (2021)

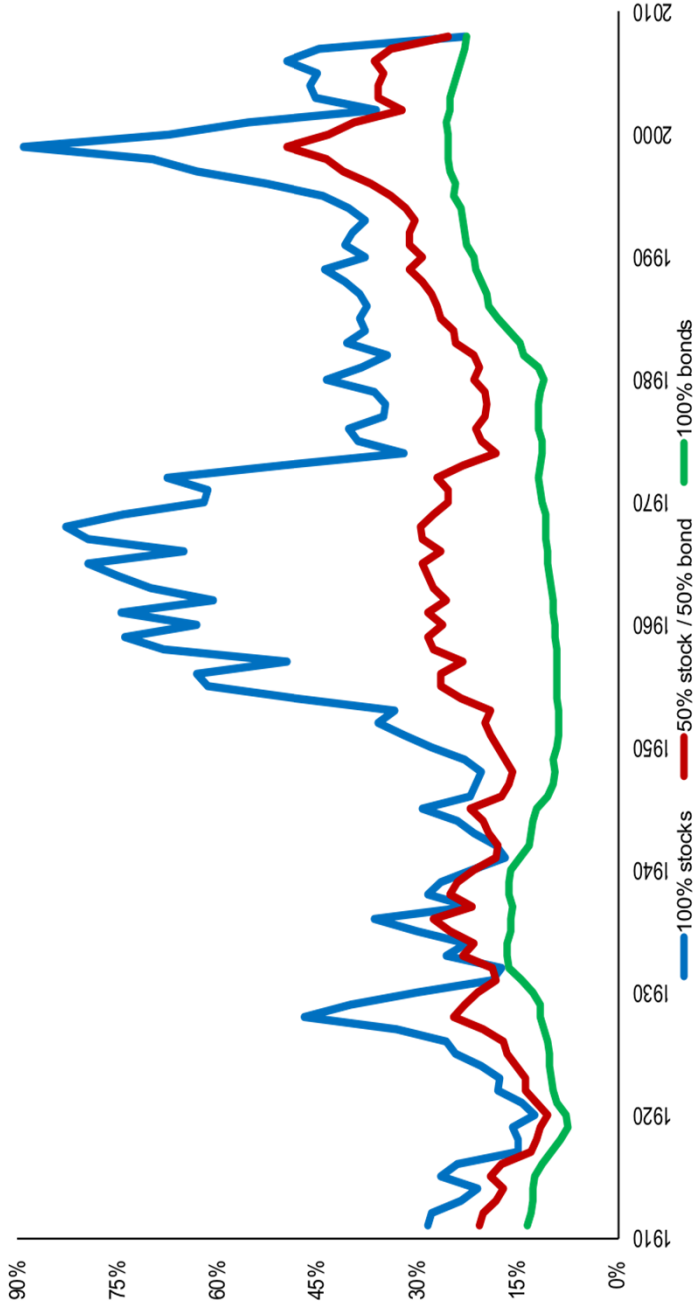


TFSA Withdrawals do not affect GIS benefits





## Replacement rate obtained from personal account savings of workers who invest in alternative portfolios





## Problems with Self-Directed Individual Account Plans

Can seek an Investment Manager

**But that just shifts the Risk to the Expense Risk (MERs)**



## Impact of Investment Expense Ratios on Pension

Expense Ratio	0%	0.4%	1.5%	3%
<b>Acc. Value (,000)</b> <i>After 40 years</i>	\$777	\$707	\$551	\$400
<b>Annual Pension</b>	\$45,000	\$41,000	\$32,000	\$23,000
<b>Replacement Ratio</b>	90%	82%	64%	46%



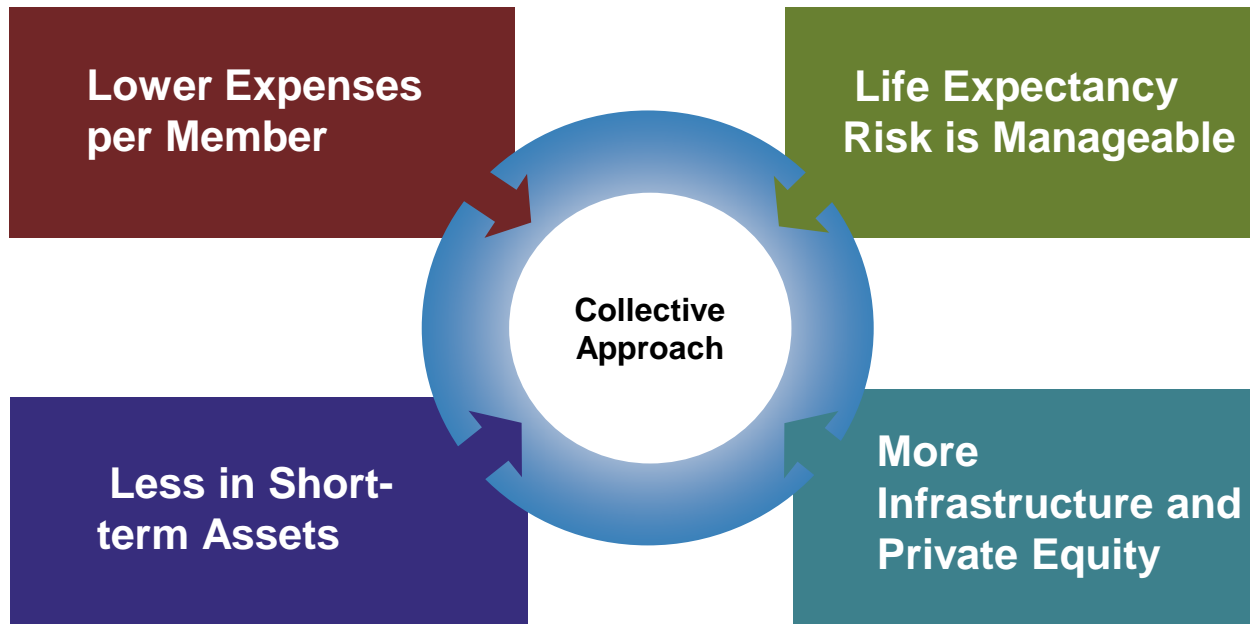


**(Much) Better outcomes  
are possible**





## Providing Better Retirement Income Security Requires a Collective Approach





## Lots of Other Models



Contingent COLAs



Target Benefit Plans



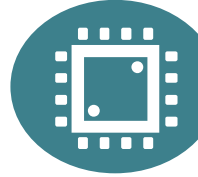
Risk Sharing Plans of New Brunswick



Collective DC



Defined Ambition Plans



UBC Variable Payout Life Annuity





## Much better outcomes are possible



Research Indicates that a large DB plan can get

**3.1** times as much retirement income as a  
Self-Directed Individual Acct with the same  
contribution



**Plus** carry the Longevity Risk  
(and with no benefit volatility)





## Finding Common Ground



**Plan assets should be large (> \$1B)**



**Managed by an Independent Board of Experts**



**Plan can run Economically**



**Plan can buy Alternative Assets**



**Plan can carry the Longevity Risk**



**Laws and Regulations should allow SMEs to Join**





# Q & A

