

My group benefit plan



canada  TM

MEBAC/The City of Calgary

Optional Critical Illness Insurance

For more information, contact HR Support Services at 403-268-5800
(Option #1 Pension & Benefits)

We are pleased to offer you our services. As we adhere to principles of inclusion, all genders are incorporated in the language used in our communications with you.

BENEFIT DETAILS

Canada Life™ is a leading Canadian life and health insurer. Canada Life's financial security advisors work with our clients from coast to coast to help them secure their financial future. We provide a wide range of retirement savings and income plans; as well as life, disability and critical illness insurance for individuals and families. As a leading provider of employee benefits in Canada, we offer effective benefit solutions for large and small employee groups.

Canada Life Online

Visit our website at www.canadalife.com for:

- information and details on Canada Life's corporate profile and our products and services
- investor information
- news releases
- contact information
- online claims submission

Customer complaints

We are committed to addressing your concerns promptly, fairly and professionally. Here is how you may submit your complaint.

- Toll-free:
 - Phone: 1-866-292-7825
 - Fax: 1-855-317-9241
- Email: ombudsman@canadalife.com
- In writing:

The Canada Life Assurance Company
Ombudsman's Office T262
255 Dufferin Avenue
London, ON N6A 4K1

For additional information on how you may submit a complaint, please visit www.canadalife.com/complaints.

The information provided in the booklet is intended to summarize the provisions of Group Policy No. 175551. If there are variations between the information in the booklet and the provisions of the policy, the policy will prevail to the extent permitted by law.

This booklet contains important information and should be kept in a safe place known to you and your family.

The Plan is underwritten by



This booklet was prepared on: April 18, 2022

Access to Documents

You have the right, upon request, to obtain a copy of the policy, your application and any written statements or other records you have provided to Canada Life as evidence of insurability, subject to certain limitations.

Legal Actions

Every action or proceeding against an insurer for the recovery of insurance money payable under the contract is absolutely barred unless commenced within the time set out in the *Insurance Act* (for actions or proceedings governed by the laws of Alberta and British Columbia), *The Insurance Act* (for actions or proceedings governed by the laws of Manitoba), the *Limitations Act, 2002* (for actions or proceedings governed by the laws of Ontario), or other applicable legislation. For those actions or proceedings governed by the laws of Quebec, the prescriptive period is set out in the Quebec Civil Code.

Appeals

You have the right to appeal a denial of all or part of the insurance or benefits described in the contract as long as you do so within one year of the initial denial of the insurance or a benefit. An appeal must be in writing and must include your reasons for believing the denial to be incorrect.

Benefit Limitation for Overpayment

If benefits are paid that were not payable under the policy, you are responsible for repayment within 30 days after Canada Life sends you a notice of the overpayment, or within a longer period if agreed to in writing by Canada Life. If you fail to fulfil this responsibility, no further benefits are payable under the policy until the overpayment is recovered. This does not limit Canada Life's right to use other legal means to recover the overpayment.

Quebec Time Limit for the Payment of Benefits

Where Quebec law applies, benefits will be paid in accordance with the terms set out in this plan within 60 days following receipt of the required proof of claim.

Employer Role

The employer's role is limited to providing employees with information and not advice.

Protecting Your Personal Information

At Canada Life, we recognize and respect the importance of privacy. Personal information about you is kept in a confidential file at the offices of Canada Life or the offices of an organization authorized by Canada Life. Canada Life may use service providers located within or outside Canada. We limit access to personal information in your file to Canada Life staff or persons authorized by Canada Life who require it to perform their duties, to persons to whom you have granted access, and to persons authorized by law. Your personal information may be subject to disclosure to those authorized under applicable law within or outside Canada.

We use the personal information to administer the group benefits plan under which you are covered. This includes many tasks, such as:

- determining your eligibility for coverage under the plan
- enrolling you for coverage
- investigating and assessing your claims and providing you with payment
- managing your claims
- verifying and auditing eligibility and claims
- creating and maintaining records concerning our relationship
- underwriting activities, such as determining the cost of the plan, and analyzing the design options of the plan
- Canada Life's and its affiliates' internal data management and analytics
- preparing regulatory reports, such as tax slips

We may exchange personal information with your health care providers, your plan administrator, any insurance or reinsurance companies, administrators of government benefits or other benefit programs, other organizations, or service providers working with us or the above when relevant and necessary to administer the plan.

As a plan member, you are responsible for the claims submitted. We may exchange personal information with you or a person acting on your behalf when relevant and necessary to confirm coverage and to manage the claims submitted.

You may request access or correction of the personal information in your file. A request for access or correction should be made in writing and may be sent to any of Canada Life's offices or to our head office.

For a copy of our Privacy Guidelines, or if you have questions about our personal information policies and practices (including with respect to service providers), write to Canada Life's Chief Compliance Officer or refer to www.canadalife.com.

Optional Critical Illness Insurance – Policy#: 175551

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Benefit Summary	1
Commencement and Termination of Coverage	2
Dependent Coverage	2
Beneficiary Designation	2
Optional Critical Illness Insurance	3

Benefit Summary

This summary must be read together with the benefits described in this booklet.

Optional Critical Illness Insurance

Available in \$10,000 units to a maximum of \$250,000, for you or your spouse or common-law partner under age 65

If you apply within 31 days after initial eligibility, the first \$50,000 of insurance does not require evidence of insurability. Amounts over \$50,000 will be subject to evidence of insurability

If you apply after 31 days, evidence of insurability will be required for all amounts

If you are covered under this plan as both an employee and a spouse or common-law partner, you are limited to the \$250,000 maximum

COMMENCEMENT AND TERMINATION OF COVERAGE

You are eligible to participate in the plan on the date your employment begins if you are a permanent or probationary employee under age 65.

- You and your dependents will be covered as soon as you become eligible.
- You must be actively at work when coverage takes effect, otherwise the coverage will not be effective until you return to work.

Increases in your benefits while you are covered by this plan will not become effective unless you are actively at work.

- Temporary and seasonal employees may not join the plan.

Your coverage terminates when your employment ends, you are no longer eligible, or the policy terminates, whichever is earliest.

- Your dependents' coverage terminates when your insurance terminates or your dependent no longer qualifies, whichever is earlier.
- Your coverage may be extended if it would have terminated because you are not actively at work due to disease or injury, temporary lay-off or leave of absence. See your employer for details.
- When your coverage terminates, you may be entitled to an extension of benefits under the plan. See your employer for details.

DEPENDENT COVERAGE

Dependent means:

- Your spouse, legal or common-law.

BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION

You may make, alter, or revoke a designation of beneficiary as permitted by law. Any designation of beneficiary you made under your employer's previous policy prior to the effective date of this policy applies to this policy until you make a change to that designation. You should review your beneficiary designation from time to time to ensure that it reflects your current intentions. You may change the designation by completing a form available from your employer.

OPTIONAL CRITICAL ILLNESS INSURANCE

If you or your spouse is diagnosed with one of the illnesses defined below while insured, Canada Life will pay you the optional critical illness insurance benefit. Check the **Benefit Summary** for the amount of insurance available. Where a survival period is specified for a condition below, Canada Life will not pay the benefit until the end of the survival period. In addition to this benefit, provided it is \$10,000 or more, Canada Life will make a \$500 donation in your name to a registered charitable organization of your choice.

If you apply for this optional benefit within 31 days after your initial eligibility, the first \$50,000 of insurance does not require medical evidence and you are automatically insured for this amount. If you apply for this optional benefit after 31 days, you may be required to provide proof of insurability satisfactory to Canada Life. Only one critical illness benefit is payable in a person's lifetime. Once a benefit has been paid, no further critical illness insurance is available for that person.

Your optional critical illness insurance will not continue past the end of the day before the date you reach age 70. Spouse coverage will not continue past the end of the day before the date you or your spouse reaches age 70, whichever is earlier.

Covered Illnesses

Any of the following conditions is considered a critical illness if it meets the defined criteria and has been diagnosed by a specialist as defined by the policy. The specialist must not be the Group Policyholder, the insured, or a relative or business associate of the Group Policyholder or the insured.

Any tests or examinations that must be performed in order to satisfy the condition requirements must be conducted by a medical professional who is not the Group Policyholder, the insured, or a relative or business associate of the Group Policyholder or the insured.

The diagnosis must be supported by objective medical evidence.

Heart Attack

"Heart Attack" means the death of heart muscle due to obstruction of blood flow, that results in the rise and fall of biochemical cardiac markers to levels considered diagnostic of myocardial infarction, with at least one of the following:

- heart attack symptoms;
- new electrocardiogram (ECG) changes consistent with a heart attack; or
- development of new Q waves during or immediately following an intra-arterial cardiac procedure including, but not limited to, coronary angiography and coronary angioplasty.

Limitations

No benefits will be paid under this condition for:

- elevated biochemical cardiac markers after an intra-arterial cardiac procedure including, but not limited to, coronary angiography and coronary angioplasty, in the absence of new Q waves; or
- ECG changes suggesting a prior myocardial infarction, which do not meet the Heart Attack definition as described above.

The benefit is payable after a survival period of 30 days following the date of diagnosis.

Stroke

"Stroke" means an acute cerebrovascular event caused by intra-cranial thrombosis or haemorrhage, or embolism from an extra-cranial source, with:

- acute onset of new neurological symptoms, and
- new objective neurological deficits on clinical examination,

persisting for more than 30 days following the date of the condition. These new symptoms and deficits must be corroborated by diagnostic imaging testing.

Limitations

No benefits will be paid under this condition for:

- transient ischaemic attacks; or
- intracerebral vascular events due to trauma.

For greater certainty, lacunar infarcts which do not have the neurological symptoms and deficits set out above, persisting for more than 30 days, do not satisfy the definition of stroke.

The benefit is payable after a survival period of 30 days following the date of diagnosis.

Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery

"Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery" means the undergoing of heart surgery to correct narrowing or blockage of one or more coronary arteries with bypass graft(s). The surgery must be determined to be medically necessary by a specialist.

Limitations

No benefits will be paid under this condition for angioplasty, intra-arterial procedures, percutaneous transcatheter procedures or non-surgical procedures.

The benefit is payable after a survival period of 30 days following the date of surgery.

Cancer (Life-Threatening)

"Cancer (Life-Threatening)" means a tumour, which must be characterized by the uncontrolled growth and spread of malignant cells and the invasion of tissue.

Types of cancer include carcinoma, melanoma, leukemia, lymphoma, and sarcoma.

Limitations

No benefits will be paid under this condition for the following:

- lesions described as benign, pre-malignant, uncertain, borderline, non-invasive, carcinoma in-situ (Tis), or tumors classified as Ta;
- malignant melanoma skin cancer that is less than or equal to 1.0 mm in thickness, unless it is ulcerated or is accompanied by lymph node or distant metastasis;
- any non-melanoma skin cancer, without lymph node or distant metastasis;
- prostate cancer classified as T1a or T1b, without lymph node or distant metastasis;
- papillary thyroid cancer or follicular thyroid cancer, or both, that is less than or equal to 2.0 cm in greatest diameter and classified as T1, without lymph node or distant metastasis;
- chronic lymphocytic leukemia classified less than Rai stage 1; or
- malignant gastrointestinal stromal tumours (GIST) and malignant carcinoid tumours, classified less than AJCC Stage 2.

The terms Tis, Ta, T1a, T1b, T1 and AJCC Stage 2 are as defined in the American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) cancer staging manual, 8th Edition, 2018.

The term Rai staging is to be applied as explained in KR Rai, A Sawitsky, EP Cronkite, AD Chanana, RN Levy and BS Pasternack: Clinical staging of chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Blood 46:219, 1975.

Cancer Exclusion Period

No benefits will be paid under this condition if, within the first 90 days following the later of the person's effective date of insurance or, for an increase, the effective date of the increase, the person has any of the following:

- signs, symptoms or investigations that lead to a diagnosis of cancer (covered or excluded under the policy), regardless of when the diagnosis is made; or
- a diagnosis of cancer (covered or excluded under the policy).

Medical information about the diagnosis and any signs, symptoms or investigations leading to the diagnosis must be reported to Canada Life within six months of the date of the diagnosis. If this information is not provided within this period, Canada Life has the right to deny any claim for cancer or any critical illness caused by any cancer or its treatment.

Kidney Failure

"Kidney Failure" means chronic irreversible failure of both kidneys to function, as a result of which regular haemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis or renal transplantation is initiated.

Blindness

"Blindness" means the total and irreversible loss of vision in both eyes, evidenced by:

- the corrected visual acuity being 20/200 or less in both eyes; or
- the field of vision being less than 20 degrees in both eyes.

Major Organ Transplant

"Major Organ Transplant" means irreversible failure of the heart, both lungs, liver, both kidneys, or bone marrow, and transplantation must be medically necessary. To qualify under major organ transplant, the person must undergo a transplantation procedure as the recipient of a heart, lung, liver, kidney or bone marrow, and limited to these entities.

Dementia, Including Alzheimer's Disease

"Dementia, Including Alzheimer's Disease" means dementia, which must be characterized by a progressive deterioration of memory and at least one of the following areas of cognitive function:

- aphasia (a disorder of speech);
- apraxia (difficulty performing familiar tasks);
- agnosia (difficulty recognizing objects); or
- disturbance in executive functioning (e.g. inability to think abstractly and to plan, initiate, sequence, monitor, and stop complex behaviour), which is affecting daily life.

The person must exhibit:

- dementia of at least moderate severity, which must be evidenced by a Mini Mental State Exam of 20/30 or less, or equivalent score on another generally medically accepted test or tests of cognitive function; and
- evidence of progressive deterioration in cognitive and daily functioning either by serial cognitive tests or by history over at least a six-month period.

Limitations

No benefits will be paid under this condition for affective or schizophrenic disorders, or delirium.

For purposes of the policy, reference to the Mini Mental State Exam is to Folstein MF, Folstein SE, McHugh PR, J Psychiatr Res. 1975;12(3):189.

Parkinson's Disease and Specified Atypical Parkinsonian Disorders

"Parkinson's Disease" means primary Parkinson's Disease, a permanent neurologic condition which must be characterized by bradykinesia (slowness of movement) and at least one of:

- muscular rigidity; or
- rest tremor.

The person must exhibit objective signs of progressive deterioration in function for at least one year, for which the treating neurologist has recommended dopaminergic medication or other generally medically accepted equivalent treatment for Parkinson's Disease.

"Specified Atypical Parkinsonian Disorders" mean progressive supranuclear palsy, corticobasal degeneration, or multiple system atrophy.

Limitation

No benefits will be paid under this condition for any other type of parkinsonism.

Parkinson's Disease and Specified Atypical Parkinsonian Disorders exclusion period

No benefits will be paid under this condition if, within the first year following the later of the person's effective date of insurance or, for an increase, the effective date of the increase, the person has any of the following:

- signs, symptoms or investigations that lead to a diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease, a Specified Atypical Parkinsonian Disorder or any other type of parkinsonism, regardless of when the diagnosis is made; or
- a diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease, a Specified Atypical Parkinsonian Disorder or any other type of parkinsonism.

Medical information about the diagnosis and any signs, symptoms or investigations leading to the diagnosis must be reported to Canada Life within six months of the date of the diagnosis. If this information is not provided within this period, Canada Life has the right to deny any claim for Parkinson's Disease or Specified Atypical Parkinsonian Disorders or, any critical illness caused by Parkinson's Disease or Specified Atypical Parkinsonian Disorders or its treatment.

Paralysis

"Paralysis" means total loss of muscle function of two or more limbs as a result of injury or disease to the nerve supply of those limbs, for a period of at least 90 days following the precipitating event.

Multiple Sclerosis

"Multiple Sclerosis" means at least one of the following:

- two or more separate clinical attacks, confirmed by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the nervous system, showing multiple lesions of demyelination;
- well-defined neurological abnormalities lasting more than six months, confirmed by MRI imaging of the nervous system, showing multiple lesions of demyelination; or
- a single attack, confirmed by repeated MRI imaging of the nervous system, which shows multiple lesions of demyelination which have developed at intervals at least one month apart.

Deafness

"Deafness" means the total and irreversible loss of hearing in both ears, with an auditory threshold of 90 decibels or greater within the speech threshold of 500 to 3000 hertz.

Loss of Speech

"Loss of Speech" means the total and irreversible loss of the ability to speak as a result of physical injury or disease for a period of at least 180 days.

Limitation

No benefits will be paid under this condition for all psychiatric related causes.

Coma

"Coma" means a state of unconsciousness with no reaction to external stimuli or response to internal needs for a continuous period of at least 96 hours, and for which period the Glasgow coma score must be four or less.

Limitation

No benefits will be paid under this condition for a medically induced coma.

Severe Burns

"Severe Burns" means third degree burns over at least 20% of the body surface.

Aortic Surgery

"Aortic Surgery" means the undergoing of surgery for disease of the aorta requiring excision and surgical replacement of any part of the diseased aorta with a graft. Aorta means the thoracic and abdominal aorta but not its branches. The surgery must be determined to be medically necessary by a specialist.

Limitations

No benefits will be paid under this condition for angioplasty, intra-arterial procedures, percutaneous trans-catheter procedures or non-surgical procedures.

The benefit is payable after a survival period of 30 days following the date of surgery.

Benign Brain Tumour

"Benign Brain Tumour" means a non-malignant tumour located in the cranial vault and limited to the brain, meninges, cranial nerves or pituitary gland. The tumour must require surgery or radiation treatment or cause irreversible objective neurological deficits.

Limitation

No benefits will be paid under this condition for pituitary adenomas less than 10 mm.

Benign brain tumour exclusion period

No benefits will be paid under this condition if, within the first 90 days following the later of the person's effective date of insurance or, for an increase, the effective date of the increase, the person has any of the following:

- signs, symptoms or investigations that lead to a diagnosis of benign brain tumour (covered or excluded under the policy), regardless of when the diagnosis is made; or
- a diagnosis of benign brain tumour (covered or excluded under the policy).

Medical information about the diagnosis and any signs, symptoms or investigations leading to the diagnosis must be reported to Canada Life within six months of the date of the diagnosis. If this information is not provided within this period, Canada Life has the right to deny any claim for benign brain tumour or any critical illness caused by any benign brain tumour or its treatment.

Heart Valve Replacement or Repair

"Heart Valve Replacement or Repair" means the undergoing of surgery to replace any heart valve with either a natural or mechanical valve or to repair heart valve defects or abnormalities. The surgery must be determined to be medically necessary by a specialist.

Limitations

No benefits will be paid under this condition for angioplasty, intra-arterial procedures, percutaneous trans-catheter procedures or non-surgical procedures

The benefit is payable after a survival period of 30 days following the date of surgery.

Loss of Independent Existence

"Loss of Independent Existence" means the total inability to perform, by oneself, at least two of the following six activities of daily living for a continuous period of at least 90 days with no reasonable chance of recovery.

Activities of daily living are:

- bathing – the ability to wash oneself in a bathtub, shower or by sponge bath, with or without the aid of assistive devices;
- dressing – the ability to put on and remove necessary clothing, braces, artificial limbs, or other surgical appliances with or without the aid of assistive devices;
- toileting – the ability to get on and off the toilet and maintain personal hygiene with or without the aid of assistive devices;
- bladder and bowel continence – the ability to manage bowel and bladder function with or without protective undergarments or surgical appliances so that a reasonable level of hygiene is maintained;
- transferring – the ability to move in and out of a bed, chair or wheelchair, with or without the aid of assistive devices; and
- feeding – the ability to consume food or drink that already has been prepared and made available, with or without the use of assistive devices.

Loss of Limbs

"Loss of Limbs" means the complete severance of two or more limbs at or above the wrist or ankle joint as the result of an accident or medically required amputation.

Motor Neuron Disease

"Motor Neuron Disease" means one of the following: amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease), primary lateral sclerosis, progressive spinal muscular atrophy, progressive bulbar palsy, or pseudo bulbar palsy, and limited to these conditions.

Occupational HIV Infection

"Occupational HIV Infection" means infection with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) resulting from accidental injury during the course of the person's normal occupation, which exposed the person to HIV contaminated body fluids. The accidental injury leading to the infection must have occurred following the later of the person's effective date of insurance or, for an increase, the effective date of the increase.

Payment under this condition requires satisfaction of all the following:

- the accidental injury must be reported to Canada Life within 14 days of the accidental injury;
- a serum HIV test must be taken within 14 days of the accidental injury and the result must be negative;
- a serum HIV test must be taken between 90 days and 180 days after the accidental injury and the result must be positive;

- all HIV tests must be performed by a duly licensed laboratory in Canada or the United States; and
- the accidental injury must have been reported, investigated and documented in accordance with current Canadian or United States workplace guidelines.

Limitations

No benefits will be paid under this condition if:

- the person has elected not to take any available licensed vaccine offering protection against HIV; or
- a licensed cure for HIV infection has become available prior to the accidental injury.

For greater certainty, non-accidental injury including, but not limited to, sexual transmission or intravenous (IV) drug use does not satisfy the definition of Occupational HIV Infection.

Bacterial Meningitis

"Bacterial Meningitis" means meningitis, confirmed by cerebrospinal fluid showing growth of pathogenic bacteria in culture, resulting in neurological deficit documented for at least 90 days from the date of diagnosis.

Limitation

No benefits will be paid under this condition for viral meningitis.

Aplastic Anaemia

"Aplastic Anaemia" – means chronic persistent bone marrow failure, confirmed by biopsy, which results in anaemia, neutropenia and thrombocytopenia requiring blood product transfusion, and treatment with at least one of the following:

- marrow stimulating agents;
- immunosuppressive agents; or
- bone marrow transplantation.

General Limitations

No benefits are paid for:

- a critical illness that is directly or indirectly related to a condition for which you or your spouse received medical care within 24 months before your insurance started. This limitation does not apply:
 - if the illness is diagnosed after you or your spouse has been continuously insured for 24 months, or
 - to any amounts of insurance for which evidence of insurability is required.
- a critical illness resulting directly or indirectly from or associated with any of the following:
 - intentionally self-inflicted injury or attempt at suicide, regardless of the person's state of mind and whether or not they were able to understand the nature and consequences of their actions
 - war, insurrection or voluntary participation in a riot
 - participation in a criminal offence or provoking an assault
 - use of any drug, poisonous substance, intoxicant, or narcotic, unless prescribed for the person by a licensed physician and taken in accordance with directions given by the licensed physician
 - operating a motorized vehicle while the blood alcohol level is higher than 80 milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood.

No benefits are paid if death or irreversible cessation of all functions of the brain occurs during the benefit payment waiting period.

How to Make a Claim

- To claim benefits, obtain a claim form at the Canada Life website www.canadalife.com. Complete it and return it to the address shown on the form.
- Claims should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than 3 months after the earlier of:
 - the end of the critical illness survival period, where applicable; or
 - the date the plan terminates.



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