

**SPOUSE'S/COMMON-LAW PARTNER'S DECLARATION TO GIVE UP MINIMUM
66²/₃% JOINT AND SURVIVOR PENSION FROM RPPs, LIRAs, LIFs AND LRIFs**

I, _____, am the "spouse"/"common-law partner" (as described below) of

(name of retiring member/owner)

The retiring member/owner earned benefits under a pension plan regulated by the *Pension Benefits Act of Manitoba* ("the Act").

The Act defines "spouse" and "common-law partner" as follows:

"spouse" where used in relation to another spouse means the person who is married to that other spouse, and "spouses" mean two persons who are married to each other;

"common-law partner" of a member or former member means

(a) a person who, with the member or former member, registered a common-law relationship under section 13.1 of *The Vital Statistics Act*, or

(b) a person who, not being married to the member or former member, cohabited with him or her in a conjugal relationship

(i) for a period of at least three years, if either of them is married, or

(ii) for a period of at least one year, if neither of them is married;

"common-law relationship" means the relationship between two persons who are common-law partners of each other.

I understand that the Act requires that every pension plan shall provide that the pension payable to a member who is married or in a common-law relationship at the time the pension payments begin shall be a joint pension payable during the lives of the member and the spouse or partner of the member which joint pension may decrease by not more than 1/3 on the death of either the member or the spouse or partner.

However, I understand that if I choose to sign this waiver form and it is filed with the plan administrator/financial institution, I give up my rights to the minimum 66²/₃% joint and survivor pension. I further understand that signing this waiver means that the retiring member/owner may choose a pension that gives me a lower survivor benefit than the 66²/₃% joint and survivor pension.

I certify that:

- a) I have read this form and understand it,
- b) I have read and reviewed the retiring member's retirement statement or a statement from the financial institution showing the balance in the owner's account and know the amount of the benefit I am giving up,

- c) I am signing this form of my own free will,
- d) The retiring member/owner is not present while I am signing this form, and
- e) I realize that
 - i. this form only gives a general description of the legal rights I have under the Act and the regulations under the Act, and
 - ii. if I wish to understand exactly what my legal rights are, I must read the Act and the regulations under the Act and seek legal advice.

To give up my rights mentioned above, I sign this waiver form at _____ (city/town) _____ (province)

this _____ day of _____, _____

 (signature of retiring member/owner) (signature of spouse/common-law partner)

I, _____, of _____
 (print name of witness)

 (print address of witness)

do witness the signature of the spouse/common-law partner who signed this form before me outside of the presence of the member/owner.

 (signature of witness)

COMMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be completed where the member of a pension plan or the owner of a LIRA (Locked-In Retirement Account) wishes to,

- elect a form of pension or purchase a life annuity, that provides the spouse with less than the 66²/₃% joint and survivor pension required by the Act,
- transfer funds to a LIF, LRIF or variable benefit account from a pension plan or a LIRA, or
- elect a form of pension, or purchase a life annuity, that co-ordinates payments with a pension payable under the Canada Pension Plan.

This form must be,

- completed in its entirety,
- signed by the spouse/common-law partner, retiring member and witnessed not more than 15 days after receipt of the retirement statement required in section 23(8) of the Regulations.
- signed outside of the immediate presence of the retiring member/owner, and
- filed with the plan administrator or financial institution.

For further information please contact the plan administrator or financial institution.

Prior to completing this form, each party should consider obtaining independent legal advice concerning their individual rights and the effect of this waiver.