

## **Changes to extended health plan**

November 4, 2014

To all SGEU health care providers:

We are pleased to announce upcoming changes to the extended health care plan.

### **Vision care**

Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, the 3sHealth Extended Health Care Plan will be providing increased Vision Care Benefits to our plan members. The reimbursement maximum for the purchase of prescription eyewear will increase from \$200 every two years up to \$300 every two years. The \$300 maximum will be pro-rated for other than full-time employees working less than 80% of full-time. The Extended Health Care Plan will also continue to provide coverage for eye exams; 1 exam every 24 months for adults and 1 exam every 12 months for dependent children.

The new \$300 maximum will be applied upon the next occasion you are eligible to purchase eyewear. For example, if you purchased glasses in July 2014 and received the \$200 reimbursement (or pro-rated amount), you will be eligible for the \$300 benefit in July 2016.

### **Better than Benefit**

3sHealth will also be introducing the "Better Than Benefit" for Extended Health Care plan members from SGEU, as well as CUPE, SEIU-West, and RWDSU. SUN and HSAS plan members already receive this benefit. The "Better Than Benefit" provides 100% Extended Health Care coverage to plan members who qualify for 80% or 90% Dental coverage. To accommodate the increased benefit, 3sHealth had to make some system modifications. There is a possibility that the system modifications will be completed a couple of weeks ahead of schedule. If that is the case, coverage for the "Better Than Benefit" may begin a few weeks prior to January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. If you qualify for the "Better Than Benefit", your coverage will automatically be increased.

If you have any questions about these exciting plan enhancements that will begin on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, please contact a Benefit Services Officer at 3sHealth at 1.866.278.2301 or by email at [ebp@3shealth.ca](mailto:ebp@3shealth.ca)

In Solidarity,

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