



# 2011 ANNUAL PENSION STATEMENT

February 10, 2012

What are your retirement goals? This personal pension statement can help you plan your journey to retirement and beyond. Your statement contains details on the contributions that you and Western have made to your plan, the current value of your investments and the returns you have realized. It contains projections about what retirement income may be possible, gives you a breakdown of your current holdings, and outlines the choices you made about how your future contributions will be invested.

Our Western plans are “defined contribution” (DC) plans, a type of capital accumulation plan in which contributions are made by the employer and the member. In a DC plan, members are responsible for making their investment decisions, depending upon personal retirement goals, current circumstances and the level of risk they are willing to take.

## 2011 Performance

Global financial markets were impacted by higher than normal volatility in 2011. This pushed investors away from risky asset classes such as equities and into safer asset classes such as fixed income and money market. As a result, fixed income markets generated strong returns in 2011 which benefited all fixed income investment options in the Western Retirement Plans. On the flip side, the exodus from equities caused equity markets around the world to generate negative returns in 2011, with U.S. equity markets being one of the few exceptions. Consequently, most equity options in the Western Plans had negative returns in 2011. Money market returns were nominal again this year as a result of the Bank of Canada’s decision to keep its key interest rate low.

The only significant change on the Western Retirement Plans in 2011 was the decision to allow Pyramis Global Advisors to invest a portion of its portfolio in Emerging Markets equities.

For more information about the performance of each individual investment option, please refer to the **Retirement Plans 2011 Investment Performance Review** available on the Western Retirement Plans website or in hard copy by calling Human Resources.

You should regularly review the composition of your portfolio to make sure that the expected return and risk of the investments are consistent with your retirement goals. Be aware that past performance is not necessarily an indication of future performance.

Please attend one of the annual member meetings outlined below to learn more about your plan. Western also provides workshops and planning tools, resources such a regular newsletter and other ways of getting to know your retirement plan and making the right investment decisions.

Need more information? Call Human Resources at 519-661-2914 or email [hrhelp@uwo.ca](mailto:hrhelp@uwo.ca).

## ANNUAL MEETINGS

Thursday, May 3, 2012  
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Spencer Engineering Building - Room 2202  
Presented by Martin Bélanger (Director, Investments)  
Bonus Presentation:  
Bob Livingston of MFS McLean Budden

Thursday, April 19, 2012  
and  
Tuesday, April 24  
12:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
Spencer Engineering Building - Room 2202  
Presented by Martin Bélanger (Director, Investments)

Stephen Foerster, Chair  
Academic Pension Board

Krys Chelchowski, Chair  
Administrative Pension Board

Martin Bélanger  
Director, Investments