

On February 26-28, 2014 I attended the **SFL Pensions and You** in Regina, SK. The key speakers on Wednesday were Susan Philpott from Koskie Minsky and she spoke on the Legal Issues and Challenges for Pension Plans. She basically says don't believe all the hype about DBB aren't affordable, they are. Alex Furlong spoke on retirement security for everyone and expanding the Canada Pension Plan. Brendan Dick spoke on the merits of a defined benefit pension plan ...a BC perspective. He was the most interesting speaker for the day. His message was in short, the more people in the pension plan the better off the pension plan is. Bigger is better. In BC they have many locals, businesses, etc all participating in the DBB and their pension plan is prospering.

On Thursday the speakers were Kevin Thomas spoke on better returns: why responsible pension investment matters and Marcia Gillespie talked about Pension Plans - successes, what to avoid, addressing funding issues. Finally Larry Brown spoke on fighting the attack on Defined Benefit Pensions.

Friday was the closing morning, and the speakers were Leah Fichter and also talked on Defined Benefit Pension Plans and if they are sustainable. Trent Wotherspoon and David Forbes spoke on the importance of pensions and what is happening in Saskatchewan and what needs to be done. The last speaker of the morning was Aidan Conway and he talked about the political economy of pensions.

The breakout sessions were interesting but it was mostly overlap of what the speakers talked about.

All in all, I encourage all members to learn about our pension and why it is so important for us to keep a defined benefit plan!

<http://www.sfl.sk.ca/our-committees/pensions-benefits>

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