

pension at the time of his death, a calculation is made in the prescribed manner to establish the amount of the death benefit.

All monthly benefits are adjusted upward annually effective each January if changes in

the pension index warrant it. The maximum increase is 2%.

Any contributor or beneficiary under the Plan has the right to appeal decisions with which he is dissatisfied. Appeals by employees and employers regarding coverage and contributions are first made to the Minister of National Revenue and, if the individual is not satisfied with the Minister's decision, he may appeal to the Pension Appeals Board whose decision is final. For self-employed persons, appeals with reference to the assessment of their earnings for Canada Pension Plan purposes are treated in the same way as appeals under the Income Tax Act. With respect to benefits, there is a three-stage appeal procedure: first, to the Minister of National Health and Welfare; second, to a Review Committee; and third, to the Pension Appeals Board whose decision is final.

The legislation provides for the investment of the funds that accrue from monthly contributions, less the estimated amounts required to pay benefits and administrative costs over a three-month period. These funds are made available to each province on the basis of the relationship between the contributions made to the Plan by and on behalf of residents of that province and the total contributions made to the Plan. Funds not borrowed by the provinces are invested in federal securities. The Canada Pension Plan is entirely self-supporting in that all benefits and all costs incurred in the administration of the program are financed solely from the contributions made by employees, employers and self-employed persons and the interest earned from the investment of funds. A statement of the Canada Pension Plan's financial

situation appears in Tables 6.3 and 6.4.