

Benefits Report for 2025 UVRA AGM

Note: This will be my final report. Unfortunately, after approximately 15 years involvement with Benefits, I must leave the position and the UVRA Board for family reasons. Until a replacement is found, I will try to respond to urgent requests.

If you agree that Benefits, particularly the Health, Dental and Travel Insurance benefits, are a primary resource of UVRA, and would like to take on this highly rewarding (but unpaid!) role, please contact me via the UVRA office. PL

Telus Health (formerly LifeWorks)

Members are reminded that this Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) is offered **free of charge 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week** to UVRA members in good standing. Tel: 1 844 880 9142.

Health, Dental and Travel Insurance

As of July 1st, 2025, the UVRA-Johnson policies will be rebranded as UVRA-belairdirect. (*Note: the lower-case 'b' is a brand-identifier.*) We have just received detailed instructions on changes to the wording on our website and equivalent information on the University Human Resources pages. The changes will be made before the deadline, as staff time allows.

It is important to note that **no changes in coverage are involved.**

As of September 1st 2025, belairdirect will offer travel insurance as a standalone product, to cover sudden and unforeseen medical emergencies. The policy does not necessitate subscribing to the Extended Health policy, and no health questionnaire is required.

Respective enrolments (and premium changes) in the 3 plans available to members and UVic retirees:

Pacific Blue Cross UVic Retiree Plan

Extended Health: 363 (no premium change)

Dental Plan: 266 (4% premium increase)

UVRA-Johnson-belairdirect

Extended Health: 203 (Premium TBA)

(new standalone travel premium to increase by 7%)

Dental: 126 (Premium TBA)

MEDOC Travel: 52

Home Insurance: 14

RTO/ERO

Health and Travel: 121*

** former UVic employees identified as CURAC members. I infer that, while not yet a requirement, UVRA membership (which confers CURAC eligibility via UVRA's membership in CURAC) is the main criterion in reaching this total. There may be other UVic retirees who are not included in this total. PL*

belairdirect Scholarship Program (formerly Johnson Scholarship Program)

50 scholarships of \$1000 open to children and grandchildren of UVRA members

(whether or not insured by Johnson-belairdirect) who graduate high school in 2025 and will start post-secondary education this Fall.

Deadline: July 31, 2025 See: <https://www.belairdirect.com/scholarship>