


**PENSION VALUATORS
OF CANADA**

*“Valuing Pensions is Our Only Business
Providing the Best Service Is Our Primary Concern”*

Checklist for Reviewing a Pension Valuation

Bulletin 157.a

Whether the pension valuation has been prepared for you or for opposing counsel, you will want to ensure that it has been prepared properly. Otherwise you could be facing **serious negligence charges** later. The following questions should help in your review. **“NO”** answers should make you suspicious. If you answer **“NO”** more times than **“YES”**, you should consider ordering a new valuation.

1. Does the valuator **clearly** state the values that are the proper ones to consider for marriage breakdown purposes (including age 65 and other retirement ages)?
2. Have they **clearly explained the details** of the particular pension plan including the provisions for eligibility, employer contributions, employee contributions, vesting, normal retirement age, possible early retirement, integration with CPP, normal retirement annuity calculation, bridging, indexing and leaving the company or organization before retirement?
3. Is the report **professional in appearance, clearly written, logical and easy to understand**? From our experience, a report should contain *no less than 15 pages* to effectively provide appropriate case law reference and all of the necessary details.
4. Have they considered that the **earliest age of unreduced pension** may or **may not** be the proper assumption?
5. Have they **avoided the improper use** of one flat rounded rate for Income Taxes in all of their calculations?
6. Have they obtained actual information from the pension plan administrator rather than estimating figures?
7. Do they **explain** and **justify** their assumed retirement dates, the discount rates chosen, the mortality tables used, their calculations of the income tax allowances, and other assumptions used?

For more information, please contact us at:

Toll free: 1-800-891-9122
Fax: 705-749-6762

Phone: 705-749-0947
Email: penval@on.aibn.com