

THE

PIPEWRENCH

Your Communication Pipeline

DON'T FORGET our COVID-19 Office Protocols

Risks associated with COVID-19 may continue for sometime. Reliable Administrative Services Inc. will have one team member at the office location while the other team members will work remotely.

RASI Hours of Operation: Monday–Thursday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

If a visit to the office is necessary, these mandatory protocols must be followed:

- An appointment must be scheduled in advance.
- Members/visitors must complete a screening protocol.
- Upon entry, members/visitors must use the sanitization products provided.
- Facemasks are required in accordance with Hamilton City By-law no. 20-155.

Signage is posted as a friendly reminder about these requirements.



Attention Snowbirds: Thinking of Travelling?

The global infection situation has become a known and foreseeable event for travelers throughout the World. The purpose of our Emergency Travel Medical Insurance, as indicated in our insurance Policy, is to deal with unforeseen illness.

COVID-19 Virus/Coronavirus has been a “foreseeable” illness for some time and the Government of Canada has officially recommended that travelers avoid all non-essential travel outside of Canada. There are also broad restrictions on individuals exposed to COVID-19 and those who are travelling to other countries.

If you as an insured person become ill with COVID-19/Coronavirus while travelling and wish to submit a claim, Berkley Canada/The Assistance Company will review the claim, along with any claims for insurance coverage or benefits directly or indirectly related to COVID-19/Coronavirus. This will be reviewed based on the terms and conditions of our policy as well as the entire circumstances attendant to your claim.

Check the Canada Travel Website for advisories before your travel, but as a reminder, coverage and benefit will be determined at time of claim.

Top Up and Extension, Cancellation and Lost Luggage Insurance No Longer Offered

With the dramatic changes to our world, including the global uncertainties, Berkley Canada discontinued their offer for individual Out-bound travel insurance products that included the Top Up, Extension, Cancellation and Lost Luggage insurance effective September 1, 2020. This does not affect your current Member Out-of-Country Emergency Travel plan that you hold with the UA Local 67 Group Benefit plan.

For those members who wish to extend, top up, add cancellation or lost luggage insurance to their current group benefit, members will need to seek out separate coverage through an individual provider.

Green Shield Canada (GSC)

PRESS RELEASE

Mandatory direct deposit on e-claims is coming in December 2020. Many of our providers are reducing their carbon footprint and are going “green”. During the Global pandemic, the importance of going “green” was further emphasized and many providers, including Green Shield are moving to more meaningful digital solutions.

Consistent with these objectives, any of our plan members who are registered for GSC's Online Services and submit claims electronically (real time and uploaded) via their digital device(s) will be required to register for electronic funds transfer (EFT or direct deposit) as the only method for claims payment.

This change will be effective in early December. After that date, cheques and paper claim statements will no longer be mailed for **online claim submissions** – noting all statements are available for plan members via Online Services. Consistent with standard industry practice, this change is environmentally friendly (“green”), ensures that plan members receive payment for eligible claims more quickly, and provides a contactless means of reimbursement.

This approach is the overwhelmingly preferred option among GSC plan sponsors and plan members that were surveyed as part of GSC's process review. Plan members who have not yet signed up for direct deposit will be notified of this change through their Online Services with a pop-up ad and within one of the rotating panels on the dashboard. A message will also be included on their interactive voice response system and on claim statements. As well, they will send an email to you advising you of the change. Should you have any questions, please contact Reliable Administrative Services Inc.

Get the Latest News: Anytime, Anywhere!

Our Website has been upgraded to provide our Members with easy to access information regarding your benefits and many informative links on matters that are important to you! www.reliableadmin.com is there to support you anytime, anywhere!

The screenshot shows the homepage of reliableadmin.com. At the top, there is a banner with the text: "In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have temporarily closed our offices. All employees are working from home and are committed to providing the same quality service the Local 67 members are accustomed to. If you have any questions or inquiries, please call 905-387-5861 or 1-855-387-5861 and leave a message and one of our employees will return your call. You can also send your questions by email at local67@reliableadmin.com". Below this is another banner: "Currently the Canadian Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), EI-Emergency Response Benefit (EI-ERB) are not integrated with SUB Plans. As a result SUB Plans are not permitted to top up these payments. If your EI claim has been converted to the CERB benefit or EI-ERB, you will not be able to receive SUB benefits on top of this. When your CERB or EI-ERB claim reverts back to a regular unemployment or sick claim you will be able to receive SUB benefits, providing you meet all the normal eligibility requirements." The main content area features a large image of two workers in yellow hard hats and blue uniforms looking at a tablet. To the left of the image is the text: "I RASI" and "Reliable Administration Services Inc (RASI). is a Canadian Controlled Private Corporation owned equally by the UA Local 67 Plumbers and Pipefitters' Welfare, Pension and SUB Trust Funds and governed by their Boards of Trustees." At the bottom, there are three buttons: "Benefit Information" with a download icon, "Latest News" with a news icon, and a yellow box containing the text: "Now accepting Internet Banking and Direct Debit Payments for:" followed by a list of items.

If you have any benefit questions, please contact Local67@reliableadmin.com

Consider Getting the Flu Shot – Your Best Defense!



If you have received a flu vaccine, it will not protect against corona viruses, but will help prevent the flu. Getting the flu could make you more vulnerable to other infections. Getting the flu vaccine will not increase your risk of illness from coronavirus.

Health Minister Christine Elliott says that the province will begin prioritizing early distribution of the flu shot to vulnerable populations in long-term care homes, hospitals and retirement homes in the last week of September. **The flu shot will then be made available to the general public sometime in early October with a public education campaign encouraging people to get their flu shot being launched ahead of that.**

The flu shot is recommended for everyone 6 months old and older. It is:

- **safe** (including for kids and if you are pregnant or breastfeeding)
- **free**
- available from your doctor or nurse practitioner, and at participating **pharmacies and local public health units** across the province
- proven to **reduce the number of doctor visits**, hospitalizations and deaths related to the flu
- **different each year** because the virus changes frequently – so you need to get it every fall

Flu season typically runs from **late fall to early spring**. You should get a flu shot as soon as possible because it takes two weeks to take effect.

6 months to 4 years old	WHERE TO GET THE FLU SHOT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • doctor or nurse practitioner • some local public health units
5 to 64 years old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • doctor or nurse practitioner • some local public health units • participating pharmacy
65 and older	<p>For the 2020/2021 season, if you're 65 and older, there are two different flu shots available – standard dose and high-dose. Both shots are effective – do not delay getting vaccinated. Your doctor or nurse practitioner can answer any questions you might have.</p> <p>To get the standard-dose vaccine; which protects against 4 strains of flu virus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • visit a doctor or nurse practitioner • contact your local public health unit • visit a participating pharmacy

To get the **high-dose** vaccine, (also called "Fluzone® HighDose"), which protects against 3 strains of flu virus, but in higher doses: Visit a doctor or nurse practitioner or contact your local public health unit.

Call us, we're here to help YOU every step of the way!



We know that replacement income is important when you really need it, so let us know if you have incurred a non-occupational injury or disability at onset.

Timing is very important when it comes to submitting a claim for Sick Benefits with Employment Insurance. It is even more important when submitting a claim for Short Term Disability.

We're here to help, but you have to let us know right from the start. To avoid delays, don't delay!

enroll now

Friendly Reminder: Enrolment Deadline is December 31, 2020!

If we do not receive your enrolment form and applicable documents by the end of the year, benefit coverage for your eligible dependents may end. Please send (via Canada Post), drop off (outside mailbox) or email your enrolment and applicable documentation to:

Reliable Administrative Services Inc.
102-195 Dartnall Road, Hamilton, Ontario, ON L8W 3V9
Local67@reliableadmin.com



UA Local 67 Pocket Diaries have been ordered! Give RASI a call and we'll make arrangements to send you one!

Local 67 Board of Trustees

Steve Foffano, Chairman - Ross French, Secretary

Nathan Bergstrand - Les Ellerker - Victor Langdon - Ken Luxon - Dave Marcus - Bill Stanger

Questions?

Reliable Administrative Services Inc.

102-195 Dartnall Rd Hamilton ON L8W 3V9

905-387-5861 / 1-855-387-5861

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This bulletin provides summary information and is not intended to be complete or comprehensive, or to provide legal or medical or Professional advice. In the event of any discrepancies between this bulletin and the wording of the legal documents that govern the plans, the legal documents will apply in all cases.