



**RETIREMENT FUND**  
Securing your retirement

**Member Newsletter**  
**Vol 3 ≡ Dec 2020**



## Note from the Principal Officer

**Ilse Hartlief**

### Dear members

Despite the many challenges that we've faced in 2020, it is important that we look for the silver lining in this dark cloud. The holidays are often a good time to take stock of where we are at and where we are headed.

Setting your goals for 2021 will help to keep you motivated and focused despite the confusion in the world around you. It is important to ask yourself what you should **keep**, **start**, or **stop** doing. These are essential in helping you map out your future. As human beings, it is our resilience, in spite of the challenges we face that helps us soar above the storm.

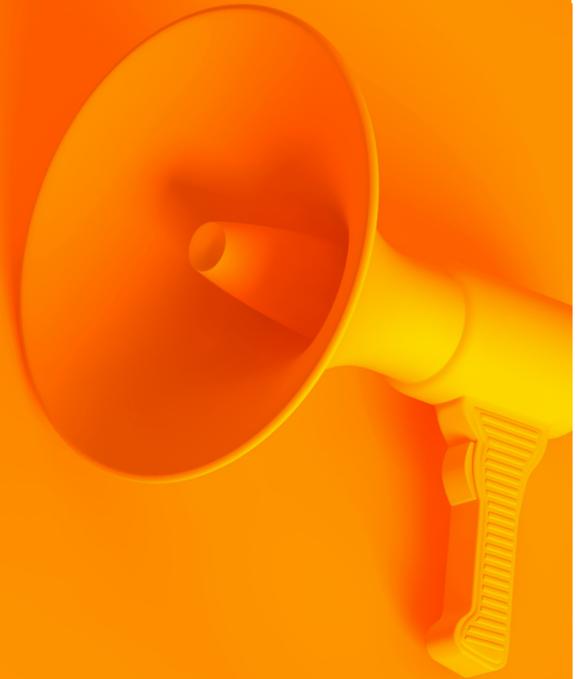
The Fund has also faced many challenges in light of the pandemic but as always our motivation and dedication to reach you, our members, have seen us adapt and evolve to ensure that we continue to serve in the best interests of our members, no matter what the circumstances.

I would like to thank each member who read our communication, attended our online sessions, and generally cooperated with the Fund during these difficult times. It is my hope, as we look ahead to 2021 that we remain committed to working together towards our common goal of securing your comfortable retirement.

It was Nelson Mandela who said: "I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it."

I look forward to our continued triumphs in 2021.

### Trustee elections



Earlier this year the Fund hosted the 2020 Member Trustee elections. One member trustee vacancy needed to be filled by 1 January 2021 and you were asked to nominate suitable candidates. We received one nomination for this position.

In accordance with the Fund's rules and election protocol, no election was therefore necessary. We are thus pleased to welcome Mrs. Michelle van Zyl back as she starts her new term as a member-elected Trustee on 1 January 2021 for a period of 5 years.

## Retirement Benefits Counselling



We are proud to introduce you to Grant Greenfield, the Fund's new Retirement Benefits Counsellor (also known as RBC). Grant's role is to focus on assisting you in understanding the Fund's benefits and ensuring that you are aware of the options and choices available to you when you withdraw or retire from the Fund.

Should you wish to contact the RBC, you can do so by:

- E-mail: [support@laretirementfund.co.za](mailto:support@laretirementfund.co.za)
- Tel: 021 943 5305
- WhatsApp: 081 806 9959 (between 08:00 - 16:00)

**Note:** *The RBC only offers free guidance to our members. Should you need financial advice, please contact a registered and accredited financial adviser.*

## Our new virtual reality

The Coronavirus pandemic has highlighted the important role that technology plays in our lives. Keeping communication alive during this pandemic has forced institutions to embrace the role of technology in order to ensure continued communication. As a Fund, we have had to do the same.

This year the Fund successfully hosted what we hope to be the first of many Virtual Annual General Meetings. In addition, we hosted virtual Investment Updates, Retirement Campaigns, In-Fund Living Annuity workshops, and even our very first online member education session. While we look forward to engaging with you face-to-face once again, we are excited to include the virtual sessions in our interaction going forward as they help us reach even more members.



We are so proud and thankful to those of you who took advantage of this opportunity to learn more about the Fund from the comfort of your homes or offices. If you have not had the opportunity to do so yet, we hope that you will join us on this virtual journey next year. Watch your inbox or the Fund's **online calendar** for more information on upcoming events.

In addition to the Fund's walk-in office, we remind you that you may contact us at any time via:



Tel: 021 943 5305

Fax: 021 917 4114

WhatsApp: 081 806 9959 (between 08:00 - 16:00)

E-mail: [support@laretirementfund.co.za](mailto:support@laretirementfund.co.za)

We would also like to remind you that the Fund's Client Liaison Officer, Glenda Kunene in addition to her continuous interaction with your HR representatives is also available to assist you with any queries you may have.

You can contact her on 081 778 0923.

## Help us help you

Please ensure that the Fund always has your latest contact details on record. Part of the journey to a comfortable retirement requires constant interaction and communication between the Fund and its members, but we can only do this if we are able to contact you. Update your contact details today via:

Tel: 021 943 5305

Fax: 021 917 4114

WhatsApp: 081 806 9959 (between 08:00 - 16:00)

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# YOUR BENEFIT STATEMENT IN A NUTSHELL



Your annual benefit statement is a very important part of your journey to a comfortable retirement. It is important that you understand it so that you can use it to help plan for the future.



## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Keep your personal information updated to ensure you receive your retirement fund information timeously.



## FUNERAL BENEFITS

This benefit is payable upon your death or the death of your selected dependant.



## BENEFIT OVERVIEW

Summary of the benefits due to you in the event of resignation, retrenchment, retirement, or death. You selected your level of death benefit cover on joining the Fund. It can be changed on 1 July of every year, within 3 months of a life event or when you move age bands.



## VOLUNTARY CRITICAL ILLNESS BENEFIT

If you selected this benefit it will become payable should you experience a critical illness or condition.



## YOUR MONTHLY DISABILITY INCOME

If you selected this benefit this is the monthly income you could receive in the event of your disability.



## BENEFICIARY REVIEW FORM

Please make sure you review this information thoroughly and let us have any updated information where necessary. This is a great opportunity to ensure that we have the correct beneficiary nomination details on record.

## YOUR RETIREMENT PLANNING STATUS



The purpose of this is to give an indication of the monthly pension you will have at retirement in today's money in order for you to assess whether or not you are on track to retire in comfort.

After carefully reviewing your annual benefit statement, you now not only know how much you have, but you also have an idea of how much you may need.

Here are a few simple tips to help get you to stay or get back on track:

- Save as much as you can for as long as you can
- Preserve your retirement savings when changing jobs
- Read your Annual Benefit Statement and use this as an opportunity to assess your financial needs
- Make sure that you have a retirement plan in place
- Speak to an Accredited Financial Adviser for advice
- Read all your Fund communication

