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ndaba

Publication for the Transnet Second Defined Benefit Fund

TSDBF
TRANSNET SECOND DEFINED BENEFIT FUND

Welcome note

Welcome to the first issue of *Indaba* for 2022. It certainly has been a rocky start to the first quarter. The South African Reserve Bank increased the repo rate, the price of fuel has increased (yet again!), electricity tariffs are set to spike at just over 9% from April, and Russia declared war on Ukraine.

In the wake of all the negative news, let us not lose sight of the positives. An increase in the repo rate is excellent news for investors and people with savings. A higher repo rate means a higher savings return because interest rates rise. Put the money you save away into a savings account and monitor its growth.

As South Africa's economy starts to come back online across all sectors, following the slump caused by pandemic restrictions, we have also seen an increase in the number of Covid-19 vaccinations. This is primarily due to employees needing to be vaccinated in order to return to the workplace in many industries. The end goal has always been to achieve population immunity so that our country can finally exit a State of Disaster.

In this issue, we look at an overview of the TSDBF's Annual Financial Statement as well as a summary of the Fund's events to date, such as the litigation conducted by the TSDBF against Regiments Fund Managers **(page 2)**. Don't miss an update on the pension increase for 2022 **(page 2)**.

With life practically whizzing by, it is easy to feel stuck in your routine. In his book *Get OVA It!*, local author Devon Brough provides an essential life toolkit which teaches you to stack Ownership, Vision and Action to get 'OVA' pain and challenges (**page 3**).

Keeping up with the rising cost of living can be tricky. Luckily, we put together a few useful suggestions to help you start 2022 on the right financial footing (**page 4**).

No issue of *Indaba* would be complete without our delicious recipe recommendations. This time we share some quick-and-easy side dishes from home cooks, which can be enjoyed alone or alongside your favourite main dish. And of course, we have some refreshing water drinks to try while there's still some summer days left (**page 4**).

It's no secret that well-planned, thoughtful design can enhance our experience of a space and contribute towards our mental wellbeing. Bathrooms are a classic example of a space that has the potential to be both functional and beautiful. Don't miss our top five tips and trends for a gorgeous DIY bathroom (**page 3**).

Remember to mask up, sanitise, and stay safe.

Happy reading!
FROM THE TSDBF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Fund news

Trustees of the Board, office bearers and administrators of the TSDBF

TSDBF summarised Annual Financial Statement

Statement of net assets and funds as at March 2021

	2021	2020
Assets		
Non-current assets		
Investments	14 196 533	11 431 214
Current assets		
Accounts receivable	52 985	62 022
Cash at bank	117 031	60 234
TOTAL ASSETS	**14 365 549**	**11 553 470**
Funds and liabilities		
Non-current liabilities		
Accumulated funds	14 325 575	11 498 931
Non-current liabilities		
Unclaimed benefits	3 929	3615
Current liabilities		
Benefits payable	0 095	9 123
Accounts payable	26 950	41 801
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**14 365 549**	**11 553 470**

If you want to update your personal information, contact the Fund Administrator Centre on telephone: Toll free number 0860 33 34 40 or email: MRA.TRFDOCS @momentum.co.za

Talk to us

IMAGES: FREEPIK, RAWPIXEL, ISTOCK

Take note

Summary of the TSDBF Fund events

In light of several recent communications received by the Fund relating to (i) the litigation conducted by the Transnet Second Defined Benefit Fund ("Fund") against Regiments Fund Managers Proprietary Limited ("Regiments Fund Managers") and others, and the Fund's settlement with Regiments Fund Managers and several other Regiments Funds-related parties, and (ii) the class action settlement agreement and implementation, the Fund has decided to provide all Members with an update on these two matters.

Litigation against Regiments Fund Managers and others (case number 29652/17)

- In 2017, the Fund instituted action in the Gauteng High Court, Johannesburg, under case number 29652/17 against Regiments Fund Managers, Regiments Capital Proprietary Limited, Regiments Securities Limited, Litha Nyhonyha, Magandheran "Niven" Pillay, Eric Wood, several companies in the Trillian Group, Tebogo Leballo, Kubentheran Moodley and Albatime Proprietary Ltd.
- The Fund implemented a settlement agreement in November 2019 with Regiments Fund Managers, Regiments Capital Proprietary Limited, Regiments Securities Limited, Litha Nyhonyha and Magandheran "Niven" Pillay (collectively referred to as the "Regiments defendants").
- In terms of the settlement agreement, the Fund was paid a settlement amount of approximately R530 million. In addition, in terms of the settlement agreement, the Fund purchased 810 228 ordinary shares in Capitec Bank Holdings Limited on terms that created an additional benefit to the Fund in excess of R100 million. The overall value to the Fund of the implementation of the settlement agreement was accordingly in excess of R630 million.
- The settlement amount of R530 million received by the Fund as well as any proceeds received by (or to be received by) the Fund from the realisation of any of the Capitec shares acquired by the Fund pursuant to the settlement agreement form part of the assets of the Fund and have been and will be appropriately invested by the Fund.
- The Fund's settlement with the Regiments defendants does not preclude the Fund from, and the Fund is accordingly, pursuing its remaining claims against the other defendants in the litigation, including against Eric Wood, certain Trillian companies, Albatime Proprietary Limited and Kubentheran Moodley.
- In addition, the Fund has launched a separate application to sequestrate the estate of Eric Wood.
- In addition to enabling the Fund to recover what it did from the Regiments defendants in terms of the settlement, the decision taken by the Fund to pursue its claims against the Regiments defendants, Trillian, Eric Wood, Albatime Proprietary Limited and Kubentheran Moodley has helped expose many state capture-related crimes and misdemeanours which are being investigated by the Zondo Commission of Inquiry as well as by the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA).

Implementation of class action settlement agreement

- The Fund, the Transport Pension Fund, Transnet SOC Ltd and the class representatives, Mr JPH Pretorius and Mr MD Kwapa, signed a written settlement agreement on 11 December 2019. The class legal representative (Geyser & Coetzee Attorneys) also signed the settlement agreement. The parties then applied to the High Court of South Africa, Gauteng division, Pretoria, for an order that the settlement agreement settles and disposes of the class action litigation and is binding on the parties to the class action litigation and all the members of the class.
- The High Court found that the settlement is reasonable, fair and adequate and on 22 June 2020 granted an order that the settlement agreement be made an order of the High Court, is binding on the parties to the class action litigation (including all members of the class), and that the agreement finally settles and concludes the class action litigation.
- In summary, the settlement agreement provides for (i) improved pensions payable to pensioners, (ii) the payment of certain special lump-sum payments to the pensioner members of the class, (iii) the funding of the lump-sum payments and the improved pensions from the assets of the Fund and the Transport Pension Fund, and (iv) the full and final settlement of the claims brought by the plaintiffs in the class action litigation.
- In addition, the settlement agreement provided that:
(i) The funding levels of the Fund and the Transnet Sub-Fund of the Transport Pension Fund would be equalised by a transfer to the Fund of assets of the Transport Pension Fund which are attributable to the Transnet Sub-Fund as at a date; and
(ii) In due course, the members, assets and liabilities of the Fund and the Transnet Sub-Fund of the Transport Pension Fund would be consolidated.
- The transfer to the Fund of assets of the Transport Pension Fund attributable to the Transnet Sub-Fund has already taken place.
- The Fund, the Transport Pension Fund and their respective advisors, valuators, and investment consultants are currently working on the steps required to consolidate the members, assets and liabilities of the Fund and the Transnet Sub-Fund of the Transport Pension Fund. These steps are complex and include the amendment of the Transnet Pension Fund Act, no. 62 of 1990.

Channel of communications from Fund Members

The Trustees, management and service providers of the Fund are at all times amenable to any suggestion, question or comment that will benefit the Fund and all its Members. We welcome any input that we can positively act on and supplement our operations, service levels and communications.

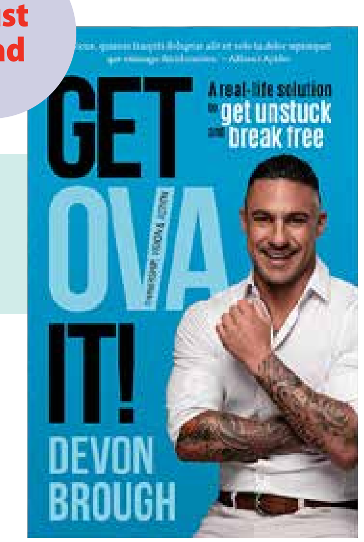
Please remember any email that is circulated constitutes a publication, and Members should be mindful to whom their communications are directed, particularly where it may be harmful to, or infringe on the rights, reputation and good name of any recipient or other person. *See page 1 for our contact details.*

2022 pension increases

The last and final lump sum amount of R10 000 to each Pensioner was paid on 8 December 2021 per the class action settlement agreement. The TSDBF shall continue to grant a minimum of 2% to each Pensioner on their retirement anniversary month. In addition, each Pensioner will receive a special increase of 4% in August 2022. Following the special increase of 4% in August 2022, the TSDBF fund will target 70% CPI pension increases including the statutory increase of 2% in August each year.

Must read

Get OVA it



Get OVA It! documents the story of Devon Brough – a passionate first-time South African author – on his harrowing journey that went horribly wrong at the tender age of 15 when he accepted a dare to down a bottle of tequila. In the space of a few years, his life had spiralled out of control.

Devon's life was a blur of alcoholism, addiction, two suicide attempts, 18 warrants of arrest, being set up for cheque fraud, and living with three Russian prostitutes. As he muddled his way through adulthood, making poor choices, he carved out a life of extremes; the kind of life no-one should ever experience and which ultimately led Devon to the realisation that no-one was going to rescue him. If he wanted his life to change, to become unstuck; he was going to have to take ownership of his life and rescue himself.

So, he took to heart some wise words from R Narayana Murthy (best known for left-oriented films that deal with the exploitation of society's lower classes) and started clawing his way out of the hole his life had disappeared into. He took the first unsteady steps to overcoming the crippling self-hatred he had been immersed in for far too long.

This book is an essential life toolkit, which teaches the reader to stack ownership, vision and action to get 'OVA' pain, challenges and obstacles that keep them stuck. It is the essential guide to breaking free and living a life of purpose. A veritable guidebook to healing and transformation.

Devon sheds light on his inspiration for penning his paperback: "This book has been written to help anybody break free from anything that is holding them back, preventing them from stepping into a life of success, love and purpose. It's a locally written and published book, but the content has global relevance because it focuses on mindset mastery. It's about understanding that you are in control of how you think, how you feel, and what you do.

The book is available online via Devon Brough's website: **devonbrough.com**, and from Exclusive Books. Books retail at R257.

Try it yourself

5 tips and trends for a beautiful bathroom

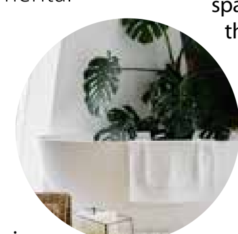
Cape Town-based interior design creative and behavioural specialist Kim Williams believes all great bathrooms are instrumental in the ability to self-soothe. Well-planned and thoughtful design can enhance our experience of a space and contribute positively to our mental wellbeing.

Bathrooms are a classic example of a space that, with considered design, has the potential to be functional, beautiful and significant in reducing our anxiety. By designing a soothing environment, we can create an oasis for us to retreat to, relax in, and revitalise after a long day.

1 Consider storage

Storage is essential in keeping an uncluttered space. Begin by identifying everything that the shower needs to store, and then implement the ideal in-shower storage solution and avoid annoying bottles falling all over the place. Having a linen cupboard to store dry items like toilet paper and towels, as well as the normal vanity storage, is always a bonus.

2 Bring nature in

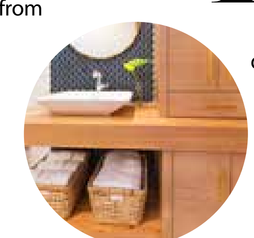


Plants work so well in bathroom spaces and the humidity from the steam of a shower is perfect for many tropical and sub-tropical plants including orchids, peace lilies, ferns and even air plants. They add a wonderful connection to nature, soften materials like marble or tile and add a gentle pop of colour.

3 Use soft textures

Soft textures protect feet from cold tiles and add a touch of luxury. Every bathroom needs a bathmat but depending on the size of the bathroom, don't be afraid to use more than one. You can even explore different shapes like a round carpet in the middle of a bathroom.

4 Accessorise



Simple elements like small decorative shelves for face cloths, diffusers and plants can make the world of difference. Decanting oils and salts into pretty bottles can make a unique feature and adds a spa-like feeling.

5 Think about seating

Having either a built-in shower seat, an ottoman, or even a little bench to rest yourself or a towel on is always a nice touch and adds an element of luxury to a bathroom even in a much smaller space.

How to keep up with the rising cost of living

The South African Reserve Bank decided to increase the repo rate by 0.25%. This move is in line with other trends in emerging market economies, many of which have already begun to hike interest rates. This despite consumers already struggling to keep up with increases in electricity, fuel, and food prices. Here are some useful tips to help you start 2022 on a good financial footing.

Living within your means

One of the golden rules for money management is to spend less than you earn or have. This will help you to ensure you are not relying on debt to accommodate your lifestyle. The best way to achieve this is to budget properly so that you understand and can account for all your monthly expenses. Most banks offer free digital tools to assist you with budgeting.

Managing your exposure to credit

Being smart about how you use and manage credit can help you get more value out of it. This starts with understanding why you need credit and what kind of credit is suitable for your needs. Speak to your bank or financial advisor if you are unsure.

Use loyalty rewards

Meaningful rewards or loyalty incentives can help you save money. With certain rewards, you can earn and/or spend your points on vital expenses such as fuel and groceries. All you need to do is figure out what is required to get the benefits.

Plan for upcoming expenses

While it is impossible to predict changes in interest rates and fuel prices, changes in the cost of insurance premiums and medical aid are typically communicated well in advance. Factor in these changes when planning your finances for the year ahead.

RECIPES

From our home to yours

Get cooking

Beat the heat in the kitchen with these quick-and-easy side dishes, which can be enjoyed alone or alongside your favourite main dish. We also include some refreshing water variation drinks to quench your thirst on a hot summer's day. All recipes courtesy of ***Koe'sister*** magazine, which features recipes from ordinary South Africans, passed down from generation to generation.

Published by Mikateko Media, the magazine is available quarterly at SPAR and Woolworths stores nationwide. You can also purchase a copy online at: **www.mikatekomedia.co.za**

Roast cauliflower with parsley and garlic salsa

PHUMLANI MALINGA

A whole roasted cauliflower makes a great main course. It's the new roast chicken! Here's how I prepare it.

METHOD

- Preheat the oven to 180 °C.
- Bring salted water to a boil and cook the cauliflower for 10 minutes.
- Remove, rub with olive oil, and bake for 90 minutes while basting as you would a chicken.

FOR THE SALSA

- I like a coarse salsa and don't chop the parsley too fine.
- Soak garlic cloves in lemon and salt, which 'cooks' it a little.
- Mix the garlicky lemon juice, olive oil, celery salt and pepper.
- Let it stand for at least 10 minutes before serving.

Hasselback potatoes

SKYE JULIE

METHOD

- Wash potatoes (desired amount) and make incisions across the width.
- Boil in salted water until soft, and drain.
- Season with BBQ spice and deep-fry until golden brown.
- Brush with butter and garlic.

Roasted cumin cabbage

FAHIEM STELLENBOOM

My dad and I started a vegetable garden. We planted cabbages in a tiny planter and the harvest was good! One of the dishes I made is this simple yet delicious side.

METHOD

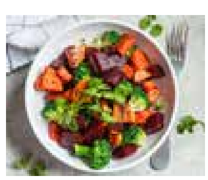
- Chop cabbage and add to braised onions, chilli, roasted jeera (cumin) seeds.
- Add salt and pepper to taste.

TIP

Fry the jeera seeds in the oil – it makes all the difference.

Beetroot and sweet potato salad

FELICITY BEUKES



DRESSING

- 125 ml (½ cup) olive oil
- 125 ml (½ cup) lemon juice
- 5 ml (1 tsp) paprika
- ¼ tsp cinnamon
- 10 ml (2 tsp) garlic, minced
- 5 ml (1 tsp) cumin
- ¼ tsp cayenne pepper (or 2 small red chillies)
- Salt and pepper, to taste

FOR THE VEGETABLES

- Preheat the oven to 200 °C.
- Cube 5 medium beetroots and 3 medium sweet potatoes. Add half a red onion, sliced.
- Place the beetroot, sweet potato and onion on a baking tray. Do not mix.
- Work half the sauce through the veggies with your hands.
- Bake until cooked and tender.

TO SERVE

- Prepare greens like lettuce and chopped parsley in a bowl.
- Mix the baked veggies with the greens and add the rest of the sauce. Mix well.
- Sprinkle feta and pumpkin seeds over the salad just before serving.

Flavoured water

ANTHEA JACOBS

The classic: lemon and cucumber
Wash and thinly slice 1 cucumber and 1 lemon. Add to 10 cups of water. Add ¼ cup fresh basil leaves and ¼ cup fresh mint leaves, finely chopped. Refrigerate overnight before serving.

The granite: strawberry or raspberry and lime
Thinly slice 1 lime. Add to 10 cups of water with 6 whole strawberries or raspberries and 12 fresh mint leaves, finely chopped. Refrigerate overnight before serving.

The digestive: fennel and citrus
Infuse 1–2 tsp crushed dry fennel in 150 ml boiling water for 5–10 minutes. Allow to cool. Thinly slice a small orange. Mix 10 cups of water, the juice of 1 lemon (add the leftover lemon, chopped, in as well), the orange slices, 12 fresh mint leaves, chopped, and the fennel infusion. Refrigerate overnight before serving.

The antioxidant: blackberry and sage
Mix 10 cups water, 1 cup lightly crushed blackberries and 3–4 fresh sage leaves. Refrigerate overnight before serving.