



Joint Colloquium of the IACA, PBSS and IAAHS Sections
of the International Actuarial Association
Westin Copley Place Hotel, Boston, U.S.A. – 4-7 May 2008

Actuarial and Investment Management Issues for the CPP

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Office of the Superintendent of
Financial Institutions Canada

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Canada

Presentation Outline

- 1997 CPP Amendments
- 23rd CPP Actuarial Report
 - Setting the asset mix assumption
 - Volatility of results / sensitivity analysis
 - Evolution of liabilities
 - Actuarial balances
- CPP Peer Review Process

Bridge over Mountain Creek, British Columbia, 1880

Source : Library and Archives Canada



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Principles to Guide Federal-Provincial Decisions on the CPP

- The CPP must be affordable and sustainable for future generations. This requires fuller funding and a contribution rate no higher than the already legislated future rate.
- CPP must be invested in the best interest of plan members, and maintain a proper balance between returns and investment risk.
- Available on website at <http://www.cpp-rpc.ca/princips/principe.html>



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CPP Steady-State Funding

Effect of the 1998 Amendments



- Increase the contribution rate by 65% over 6 years (1997-2003) and keep the same rate thereafter
- Moderate the future growth of benefits by 10% on a long-term basis (in 2050).
- Creation of the CPP Investment Board (www.cppib.ca)



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CPP Financing

- *Steady-state funding*: replaces the original pay-as-you-go financing to build a reserve of assets equivalent over time to about five and a half years of benefit expenditures or about 25% of Plan liabilities.
- *Incremental full funding*: requires that changes to the CPP that increase benefits or add new benefits be fully funded (eg: increase in eligibility for disability benefits for long-term contributors).



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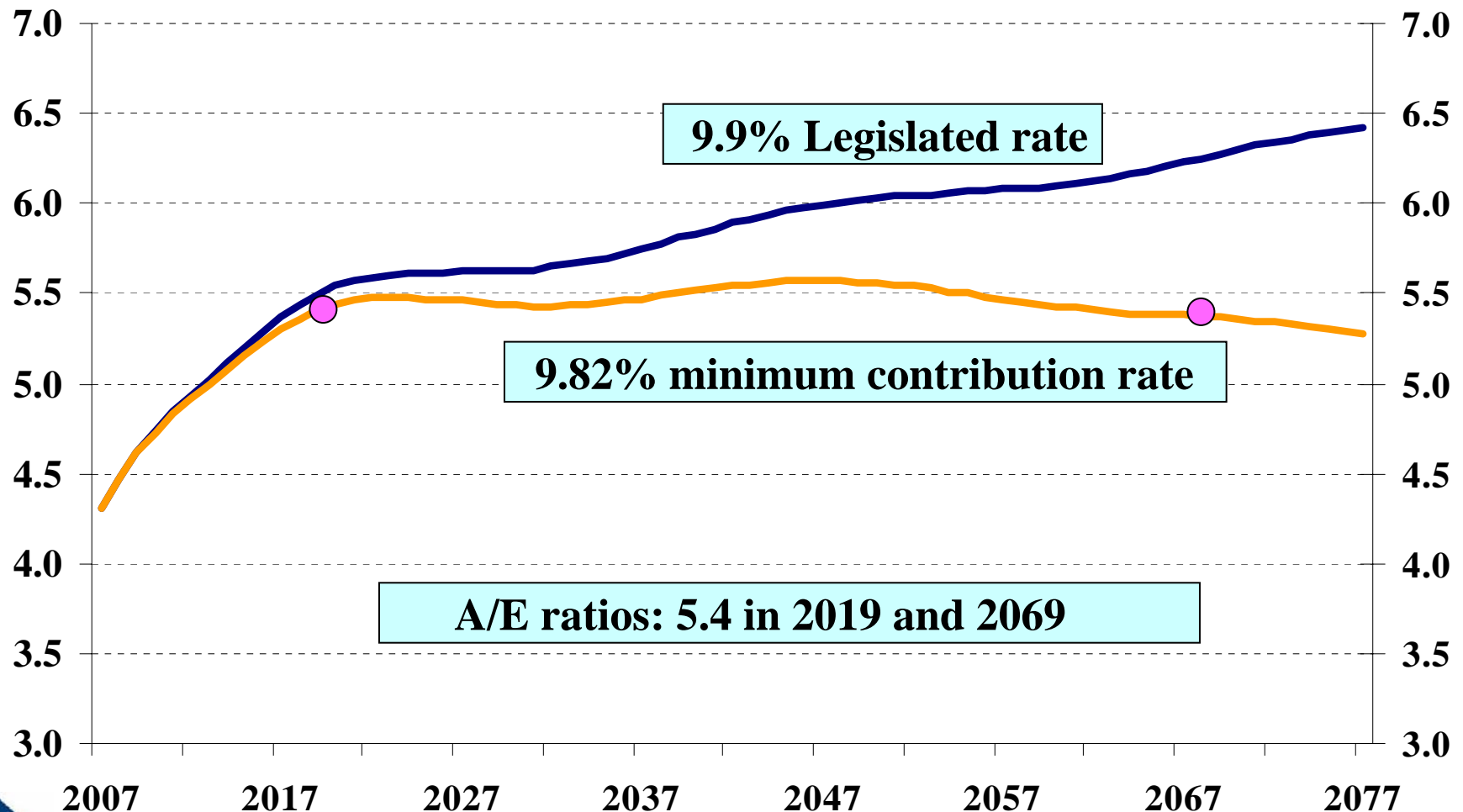
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CPP Financing

- The current legislated contribution rate is 9.9%.
- The minimum contribution rate is 9.82%.
- If the legislated contribution rate is higher than the minimum contribution rate, the funding status of the plan will increase over time.
- The higher this rate is set above the minimum rate, the faster the plan will become more funded.



Evolution of Asset/Expenditure Ratio



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CPP Default Provisions

- If the minimum contribution rate is higher than the legislated contribution rate AND if finance ministers cannot reach an agreement on a solution, then:
 - Contribution rate increased by $\frac{1}{2}$ of excess over three years, subject to maximum increase of 0.2% per year
 - Benefits frozen
 - At end of three years, next review performed to determine financial status of Plan.



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Cisco, Colombie-Britannique, 1956

© CSTM/CN Collection © SI/STC *Source : Canada Science and Technology Museum*



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Setting the Asset Mix Assumption

- CPPIB does not target specific asset allocations
 - risk allocated to investment strategies subject to risk limit
- CPPIB Reference Portfolio: relevant benchmark to compare performance of CPPIB (not a target)
- Must determine an appropriate asset mix over the 75-year projection period
 - Short-term mix similar to CPPIB Reference Portfolio
 - Long-term mix assumes a reduction of risk in the portfolio



Ultimate Asset Mix Assumption

- Investments in “riskier” assets, such as equities, are projected to decline over time
- As the ratio of active to retired members decreases, the asset mix of the portfolio must be adjusted to reflect a lower tolerance for risk
- Portfolio should be adjusted to minimize the CPP Fund’s potential for loss



Evolution of CPP Asset Mix

	Fixed Income	Equities	Inflation-Sensitive
2007	28%	65%	7%
2010	30%	60%	10%
2015	30%	60%	10%
2020	35%	55%	10%
2025	40%	50%	10%



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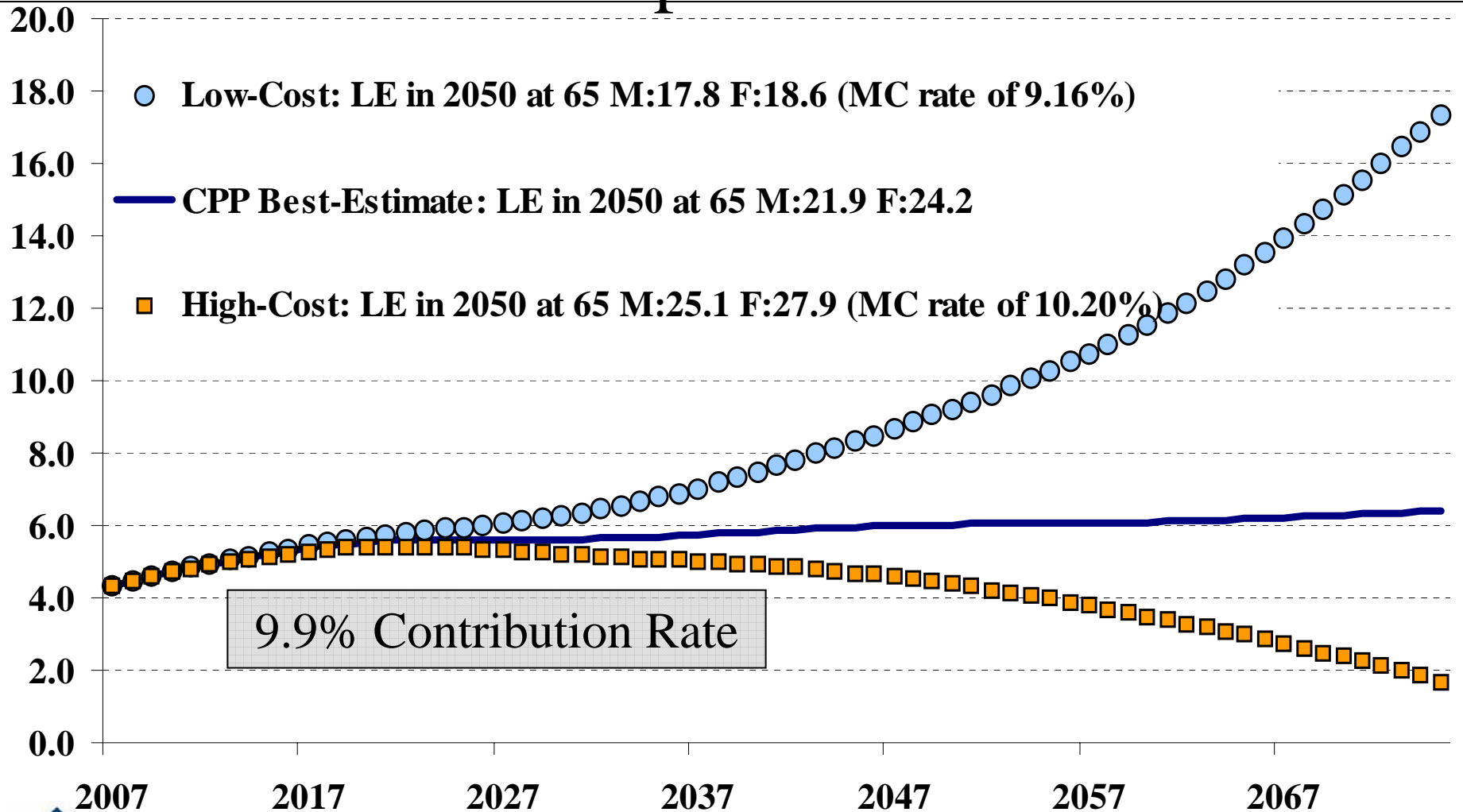
Stochastic Modeling in CPP #23

- Recommendation from CPP #21 review panel
- Incorporate stochastic modeling in determination of alternative assumptions for sensitivity analysis
 - Project probability distribution of potential outcomes
 - High cost and low cost assumptions
- Objective is to measure the impact of alternative assumptions on the financial status of the Plan



Sensitivity Test – Life Expectancy

Asset/Expenditure Ratio

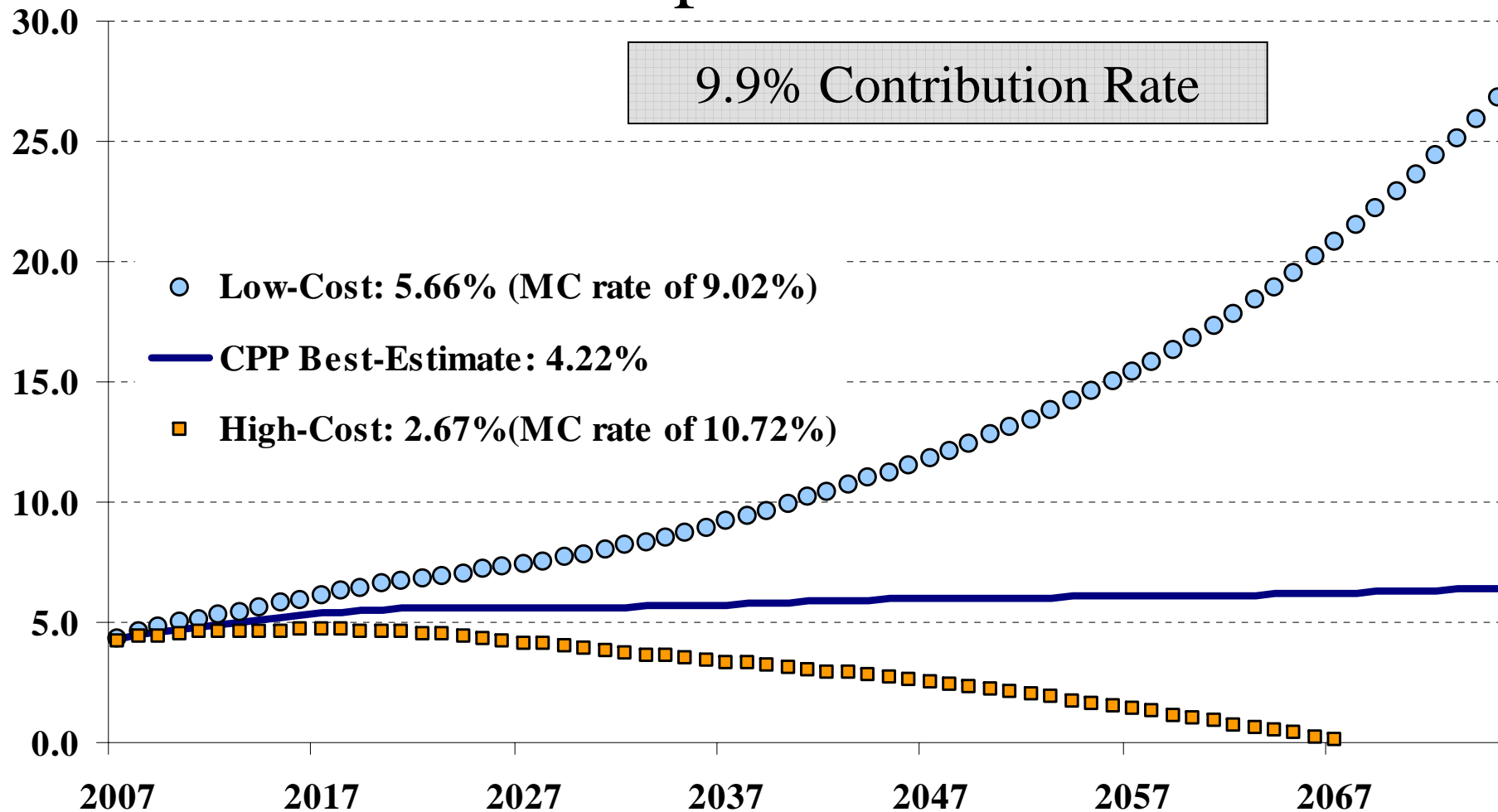


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Sensitivity Test – Real Rate of Return Asset/Expenditure Ratio



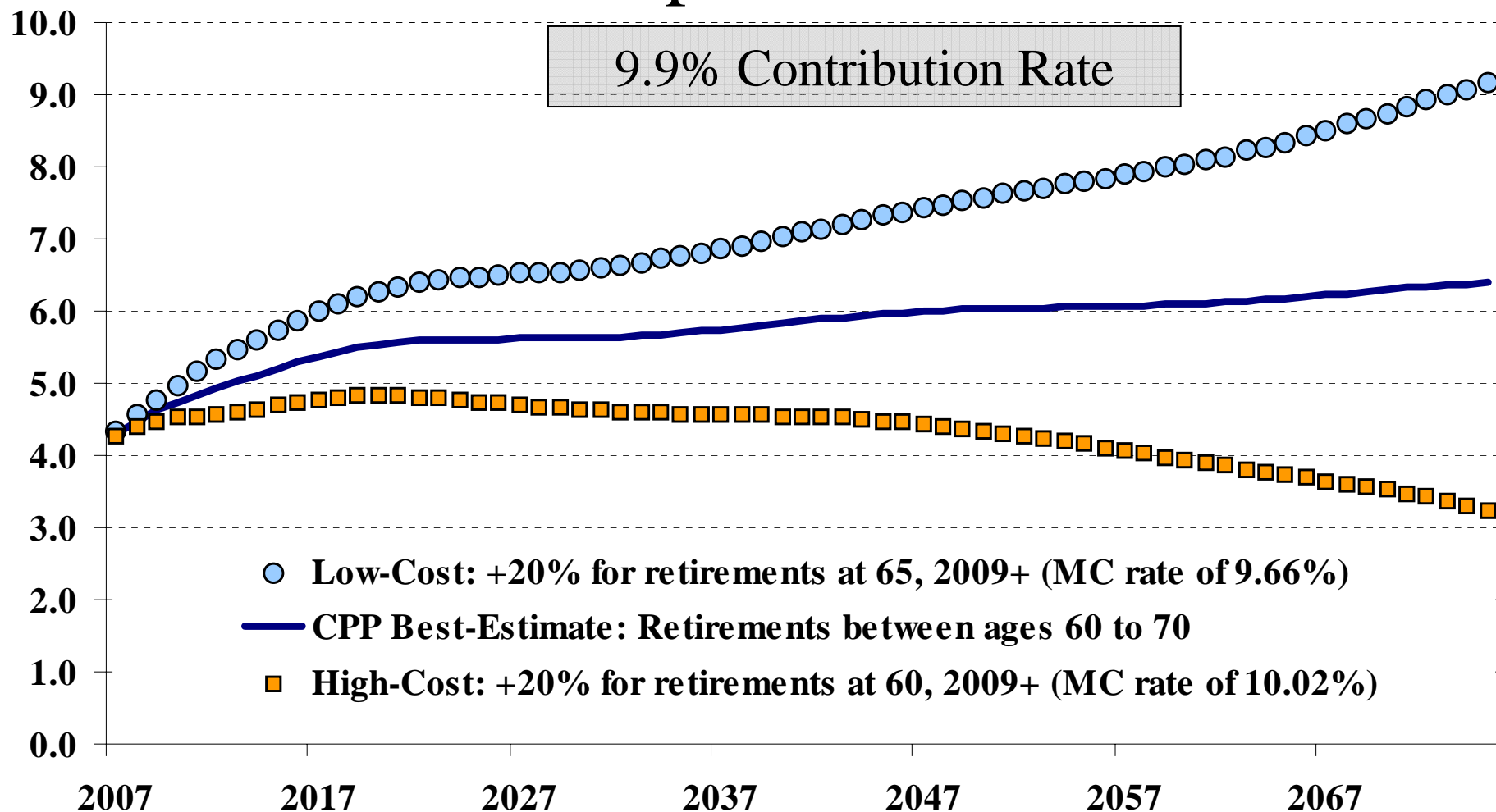
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Sensitivity Test – Retirement Rates

Asset/Expenditure Ratio



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Balance Sheet Under Various Rates of Return

As at 31 December 2006

	100% Risk-Free Bond Portfolio	Best-Estimate 55/45 Equity/Bond Portfolio	100% Equity Portfolio
Expected Real Return (%)	2.8	4.2	4.9
Assets (\$B)	113.6	113.6	113.6
Liability (\$B)	919.8	733.5	675.9
Unfunded Liability (\$B)	806.2	619.9	562.3
Funded Ratio (%)	12.3	15.5	16.8
Current Service Cost(%)	8.6	5.9	5.0
Minimum Contribution Rate (%)	10.64	9.82	9.42



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Actuarial Balance

- A positive actuarial balance indicates that estimated income (assets and contributions) is more than sufficient to meet estimated CPP expenditures for the period as a whole; negative actuarial balance indicates the opposite.
- Comparative measure with OASDI
- Expressed as a dollar value or percentage of contributory earnings



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Actuarial Balances Over Various Periods

		Assets	Income	Expenditures	Actuarial Balance
	Period	(A)	(I)	(E)	(A)+(I)-(E)
		(\$B)	(\$B)	(\$B)	(\$B)
CPP:	2007-2031	114	584	593	105
	2007-2056	114	917	960	70
	2007-2081	114	1,100	1,167	47*
OASDI:	2007-2031	2,048	15,354	16,727	675
	2007-2056	2,048	26,543	31,085	(2,494)
	2007-2081	2,048	34,113	41,237	(5,076)**

* Equal to 0.42% of the present value of contributory earnings in the period

** Equal to 1.95% of the present value of contributory earnings in the period



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Canadian troops, Canal-du-Nord, 1918
Source : Library and Archives Canada



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Strengthening the Accountability in 1997

- Federal and provincial governments took meaningful steps to strengthen the transparency and accountability of actuarial reporting. They endorsed plans:
 - to review the CPP every three years, instead of every five years as before. Therefore, frequency of actuarial reporting was increased to once every three years with a further requirement to produce the report within one year of the valuation date;
 - to consult regularly with experts on assumptions to be used in actuarial reports;
 - to establish regular peer reviews of future actuarial reports on the CPP;
 - to supply actuarial information to Canadians in a timely manner.



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CPP has been peer reviewed four times since 1998

- Role of the Auditor General and Selection Process
- Overseeing of the Peer Review by GAD
- Terms of Reference
 - Is the professional **experience** of the Chief Actuary and his staff adequate for carrying out the work required?
 - Does the work comply with professional **standards of practice** and statutory requirements?
 - Did the Chief Actuary have access to the **information** required?
 - Were the actuarial **methods and assumptions** used reasonable?
 - Does the actuarial report fairly **communicate** the results?



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Peer Review of CPP#23

- The independent Review Panel confirmed that:
 - the staff is competent and qualified to carry out the work required;
 - the work complies with all relevant professional standards of practice and statutory requirements;
 - the Chief Actuary had access to the data and he completed relevant tests on the data as might be expected;
 - actuarial methods and assumptions are reasonable;
 - assumptions are, in the aggregate, reasonable, but towards the high-cost side of the reasonable range;
 - the report fairly communicates the results;
- and made twelve recommendations on data, methodology, assumptions, communications of results and other actuarial issues.

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Thank you

