



Reform and Restructure the

WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD

WHY ARE WE HERE?

Workers' Compensation Board Alberta (WCB) has a long history of well-documented, structural issues:

- Unfairly denied claims for workers.
- A broken appeal process (especially for workers with long-term injuries).
- Incentives to WCB directors and doctors they hire, designed to push workers off the system and lower the official number of injured workers and benefits paid out, at the expense of Alberta's most severely injured workers.

What has to change at the WCB?

We are reviving an all-workers' movement for major changes to WCB that have been supported by many independent and government commissioned reports.

We need truly impartial assessments

WCB has an overly complex, bureaucratic process of so-called "Independent Medical Examinations" that rewards WCB-selected doctors for producing fraudulent reports and diagnoses, enabling WCB to deny legitimate claims of injured workers.

We need an overhaul of medical panel offices and the appeal process

Existing WCB Medical Panels are designed to leave no recourse to the claimant worker as they are "binding." They favour WCB while ignoring the diagnoses of treating physicians of Injured Workers. Worker-selected physicians' diagnoses must be given greater weight in the WCB's assessments.

We must end incentives for Case Managers to deny claims

Case Managers operate in a Bonus Salary Structure designed to clear Injured Worker claims off WCB that is discriminatory to Injured Worker claimants. Case Managers manipulate and intimidate worker claimants and their physicians when their diagnosis or opinion opposes WCB's.

We must stop offloading of employer responsibility to AISH

Why are Alberta Taxpayers paying for Injured Workers who have been denied legitimate WCB claims and forced onto AISH, a taxpayer-funded social program? WCB should not be able to displace Injured Workers to AISH, leaving Alberta Taxpayers to foot the bills.

HOW CAN WE GET THESE DEMANDS MET?

The Workers' Compensation Board is structurally resistant to change. The previous Conservative government repeatedly showed its unwillingness to make fundamental changes to WCB, even when its own ministries compile evidence and recommendations of needed changes. The NDP government that succeeded them has yet to address these issues.

This is a demoralizing situation, *but it isn't hopeless.*

Together, we can build a large provincial network of injured and non-injured workers and workers' advocates. This will build a force to be reckoned with, and force the government to prioritize injured workers and dramatically overhaul WCB.

We invite you to build the movement with us. If you are lucky enough to be a non-injured worker, this may only be a temporary situation— all workplaces have hazards. Even if you don't work in a 'dangerous' workplace, you may develop a long-term injury that may impair your ability to work and earn income.

If we don't change the system now, it won't be there to help you when you need it. **Join us in this work!**

STAY INFORMED AND IN THE LOOP!

"Like" our Facebook page to stay updated on future actions we're taking to demand and force change at the WCB:

<http://facebook.com/canadianinjuredworkers>

CALL YOUR MLAs

Find and call your MLA—enter your postal code into elections.ab.ca.

Demand that the Dunford Report recommendations be implemented.

Demand a timeline for change

<http://www.canadianinjuredworkers.com>

