

June 2017, Vol. 13 Issue 6

WCB 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

The Workers Compensation Board held its annual public meeting on June 26, 2017, at which they released their 2016 Annual Report.

The Report includes such information as an overview of the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan and statistical information for 2016, including statistics on:

- types of injuries
- number of claims adjudicated
- internal reconsideration and appeals, and
- occupational health and safety enforcement activities.

The Report also includes an overview and analysis of the 2016 financial results and the Financial Report for 2016. The Workers Compensation Board remains in a good financial position for 2016. For 2016 the Board was funded at 138%, up from 124% in 2015.

You can find this Report, as well as past reports, online at:

www.wcb.pe.ca/Information/AnnualReports

WCB POLICY UPDATE AND PROPOSED POLICY CHANGES

The Workers Compensation Board has finalized revisions to **POL-87, “Third Party Actions.”** As part of the revisions to the policy, the content of POL-145, “Statutory Bar to Actions” has been rescinded and incorporated into POL-87.

Additional details on changes to the policy can be found in the History section of the policy. The revised policy is available online at:

www.wcb.pe.ca/Information/Policies

The following policy is posted for review and commentary on the Workers Compensation Board policy consultation page:

POL-11, “Self-Employment Policy”

The proposed changes to the policy can be found on the Policy Consultation section of the WCB website:

www.wcb.pe.ca/Information/PolicyConsultation

There is a summary of the proposed amendments included in the policy and, in the body of the draft policy, new content is bolded and content that is to be deleted is shown with a strikethrough.

If you have feedback or suggestions for improvements to this policy, please reply to the Board by **July 8, 2017.**

If you have any questions or comments on these or other policies, you can contact Barbara Groome-Wynne, Senior Policy and Planning Coordinator, at 902-368-5562.

SUN SAFETY HAZARD

It is the time of year again where there is an increase in time spent working outdoors for workers in certain industries.

Employers need to consider whether sun exposure is a potential workplace hazard for their workers and take appropriate precautions in relation to limiting sun and UV exposure. UV exposure over time can lead to severe burns, skin cancer, and eye damage.

The Workers Compensation Board has some information and tips in their “**Sun Safety Prevention Update,**” available under the OH&S Hazards and Injuries section of their website:

www.wcb.pe.ca/Workplace/HazardsAndInjuries

Sun Safety at Work is a resource with lots of useful information for employers, including information on building your own sun safety program:

sunsafetyatwork.ca

For more information on sun exposure and risk of skin cancer, visit the CCOHS website at:

www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/diseases/skin_cancer.html