



Member Bulletin

WSIB Review Critical Opportunity for Businesses to Promote Substantive Cost-Saving Measures

The Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) has higher employer premium rates than any of its provincial counterparts. Yet premium rates keep rising to compensate for inadequate funds to cover the cost of insurance claims, increasing the overall cost of the system for present and future employers.

The WSIB has initiated a [Funding Review](#) to determine how best to deal with the Board's \$13 billion financing gap. Achieving a sustainable insurance delivery model is integral to improving the cost-effectiveness and competitiveness of Ontario's entire Occupational Health and Safety System, of which the WSIB is an integral part.

We recognize that businesses from many industries in the province have valuable expertise to share about the WSIB's funding priorities. As such, the OCC is creating a Task Force to provide a channel for our members to participate directly in the WSIB Funding Review. The Task Force will consider the merit of the proposals put forward by stakeholders and provide guidance from the perspective of business.

The Funding Review will gather stakeholder feedback in four stages:

- Fall 2010: introductory meetings with stakeholders
- Winter 2011: technical consultations to clarify the underlying facts
- Spring 2011: cross-province consultations to gather public input
- Summer/Fall 2011: meetings with principle stakeholders to narrow down key proposals.

The OCC is committed to working with stakeholders to develop win-win solutions to the challenges facing the Occupational Health and Safety System. The OCC prepared a [formal submission](#) supporting bold steps to align Ontario's workers' compensation model with best practices from competing jurisdictions. We also endorsed a [joint statement](#) outlining the principles of highest importance to employers in conjunction with the interrelated Review of the Occupational Health and Safety System.

To participate on the OCC's Funding Review Task Force please contact Kelly Pritchard, Policy Analyst, at 416-482-5222, ext. 246 or kellypritchard@occ.on.ca.

Background Materials:

Link to WSIB Funding Review Terms of Reference and Timeline:

<http://www.wsibfundingreview.ca/terms.php>

Backgrounder on WSIB Funding Review and Priorities:

[http://www.wsib.on.ca/wsib/wsibobj.nsf/LookupFiles/PremiumsBackgrounder/\\$file/MediaBackgrounder.pdf](http://www.wsib.on.ca/wsib/wsibobj.nsf/LookupFiles/PremiumsBackgrounder/$file/MediaBackgrounder.pdf)

Link to OCC Funding Review Submission:

<http://occ.on.ca/2010/11/occ-wams-of-economic-impact-of-wsib-premium-rate-increase/>

Link to Employer Group Submission on Review of the Occupational Health and Safety System:

<http://occ.on.ca/2010/11/occ-endorses-employer-group-submission-on-occupational-health-and-safety-system-reform/>

Link to 2009 Auditor General Report on the WSIB Unfunded Liability:

http://www.auditor.on.ca/en/reports_en/en09/314en09.pdf