



2019

WSIS

Workplace Safety
and Insurance System

Annual Meeting

Working together to build a safety culture

Agenda

- *Welcome*
- *Leadership Changes*
- *System Performance*
- *Key Initiatives*
- *Questions and Answers*

Leadership Changes

WCB Nova Scotia Board of Directors:

- *Jacquie Bramwell – Worker representative*
- *Blair Richards – Worker representative*

*Department of Labour and Advanced
Education:*

- *Ava Czapalay – Associate Deputy Minister*



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System Performance

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Workplace Fatalities 2018

14 ACUTE FATALITIES
[THERE WERE 5 IN 2017]

26 CHRONIC DEATHS:
[THERE WERE 16 IN 2017]

12 OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE

14 OTHER HEALTH CONDITIONS

Two-phase audit of the WCB by the Office of the Auditor General

- The first phase examined governance and sustainability, resulting in a favorable report
- The second phase examined operational performance including claims and benefit administration, appeal process, RTW and vendor management, resulting in 12 recommendations, which are being implemented, with progress reported to partners and the AG's Office
- Public Accounts Committee confirmed that audit issues are being addressed

Digital Transformation

- WCB's new systems will offer better data, more self-serve options, and a more sustainable technological future
- We're working through transition issues, providing more support for our people, and adding resources to make sure workers and employers are well served

Funded Position: Canadian Perspective



Note: Data in the graph is from 2017

At the end of 2018, Nova Scotia was 85.5% funded.



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Key Initiatives

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Initiatives

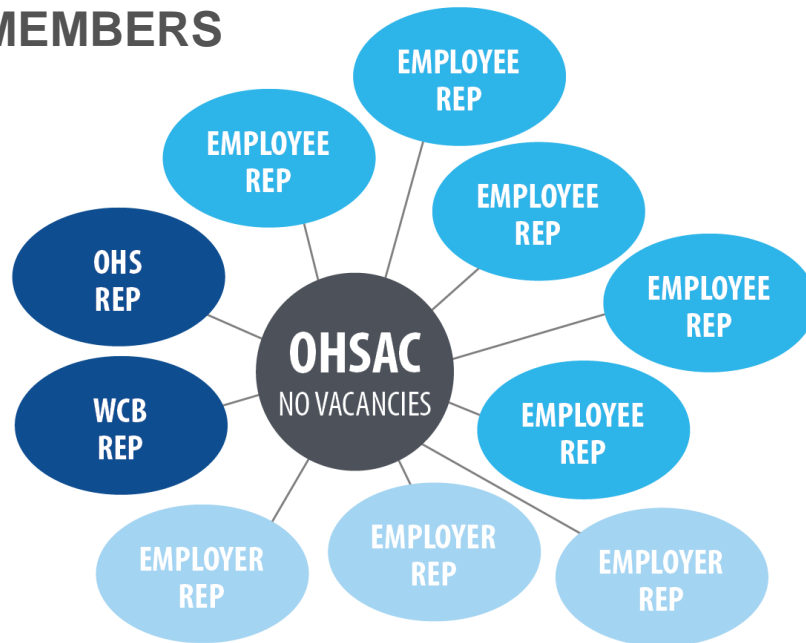
- *Report and Recommendations for Long term care, home care and disability services sectors — implementation*
- *Developing tools and resources for First Responders*
- *Appeals efficiency*
- *CEO Safety Charter*

Bill 204 Overview

- ▶ In Nova Scotia firefighting services are supported by 700 paid firefighters and more than 6000 volunteers.
 - ▶ It is estimated at least 50% of volunteer firefighters do not have WCB coverage.
- ▶ Under Bill 204, all volunteer firefighters will be covered by the WCB, and will have equitable access to the PTSD and Cancer presumption provisions.
 - ▶ Municipalities are responsible for obtaining this coverage.
- ▶ Volunteer firefighters who have received a diagnosis within the year leading up to the effective date will be eligible under the new regulation.
 - ▶ Consultation on expanding the number of cancers will occur this fall and into winter.
- ▶ Department of National Defense (DND) firefighters will be covered by the cancer-related presumption for firefighters.

Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Council

MEMBERS



MANDATE

- To advise the Minister about system-wide concerns, problems and initiatives
- Identify safety issues, current or anticipated, and to provide guidance for their resolution
- Facilitate communication back to our stakeholders at large
- Provide WSIS partners with input and advice, ensuring that the entire OHS system acts in the public interest

FOCUS

- ✓ **Mental Health** – Recommendation from the Council has been submitted to LAE
- ☐ **Occupational Health** – Council has started work
- ☐ **Training**

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LAE – Ongoing partnerships

isans | Immigrant Services
Association of Nova Scotia



AWARE + NS

Nova Scotia Health + Community Services Safety Association



Association for Workplace Tragedy Family Support

nscc





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WSIS Aligned Organizations

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Aligned Organizations

- *Office of the Worker Counsellor*
- *Office of the Employer Advisor*
- *Pictou County Injured Workers Association*
- *Cape Breton Injured Workers Association*

Office of Worker Counsellor

- *Received over 3200 calls from workers across the province*
- *Opened 300 new files*
- *Assisted with filing 60 Hearing Officer Appeals*
- *Delivered 13 workshops*
- *Participated in PTSD consultations*
- *Met with various labour organizations including IAMAW, SEIU, UNIFOR and NS Highway Workers*

Office of the Employer Advisor

- *Provided navigation to employers on a total of 306 individual Program matters in 2018*
- *Contacted by 103 New Employers across 43 different industries for Program Services assistance*
- *Delivered 7 Program Educational Sessions including a 2-day Appeal Preparation Session for Employers and full day Disability Case Management Sessions*
- *Hosted 10th Anniversary Employer Conference with 85 participants*

Pictou County Injured Workers Association

In 2018 the PCIWA:

- *Provided assistance, advocacy and support to injured workers*
- *Supported workers with return to work/case conferences*
- *Assisted workers with case management/appeals*
- *Participated in consultations and committees*
- *Engaged in community activities*

Cape Breton Injured Workers Association

In 2018 the CBIWA:

- *Represented the interests of injured workers in the community*
- *Liaised with WCB Case Managers, WAP, union representatives, and health care service providers*
- *Attended WCAT hearings*
- *Prepared and delivered written submissions and correspondence on behalf of injured workers*
- *Participated and delivered remarks at Davis Day celebrations*

LAE – Ongoing partnerships



Nova Scotia Health + Community Services Safety Association



Association for Workplace Tragedy Family Support



Beyond Provisional Boundaries

OHS Reconciliation Agreements

Atlantic

Safety Training:

JOHSC, First Aid, Fall protection, Traffic control, Confined spaces

Personal protective equipment:

Eye & Face, Head, Foot, Hearing, Personal Flotation Devices

National

First Aid Kit Content

Personal protective equipment:

Eye & Face, Head, Foot, Hearing, Personal Flotation Devices

Questions