



CANADIAN WORKERS' COMPENSATION DIGEST

Volume 6 Issue 3





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INTRODUCTION/ABOUT TEKS**MED**

Teks**Med** Services Inc. is the leader in Canadian disability management, backed by over 30 years of success. We proactively manage occupational and non-occupational injuries and illnesses with personalized recover-at-work solutions, helping hundreds of employers with thousands of employees.

Inspired by a never-ending quest to be the best, TeksMed continues to set the standard and raise the bar for integrity, innovation, and exceptional service.

Teks**Med** sees the ability in disability.

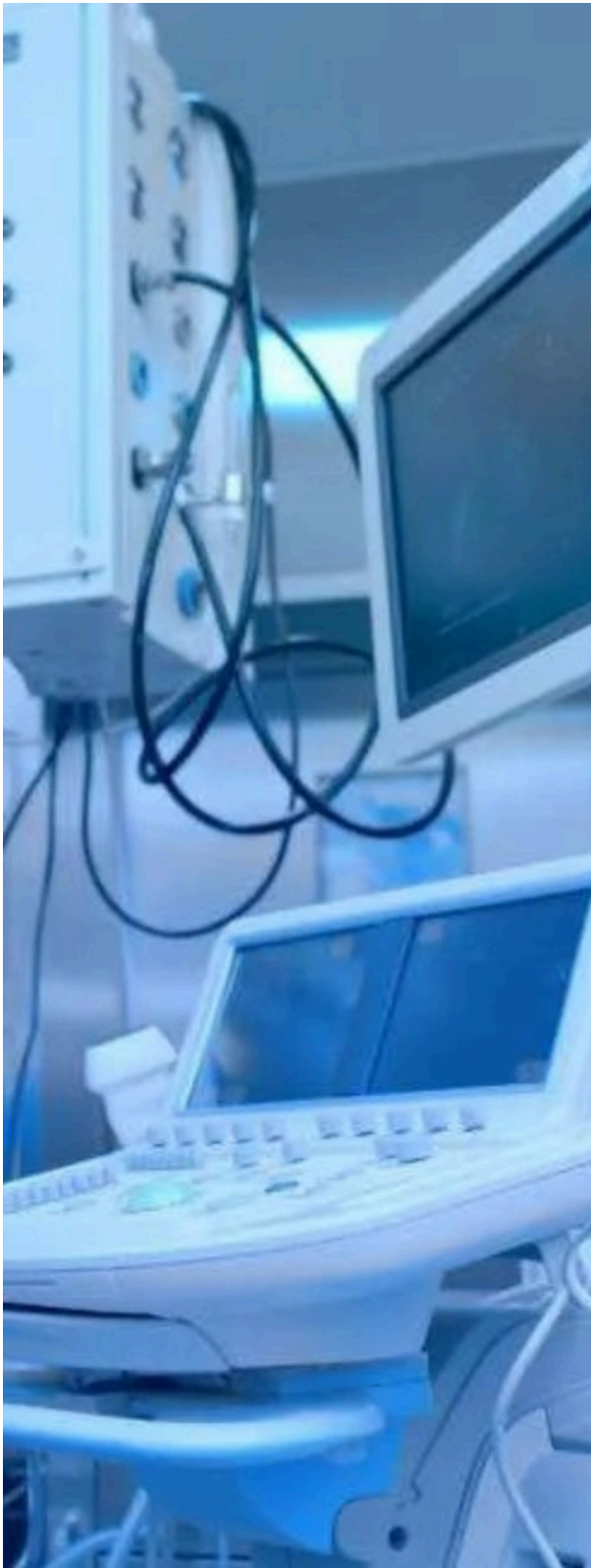
Thousands of businesses across Canada trust us with their disability management. For more information on our services and contact information see the final section of this magazine.

ABOUT THE PUBLICATION

This is the twenty-third issue of our Canadian Workers' Compensation Digest. This magazine highlights prominent Canadian Workers' Compensation updates nationally and within each province/territory.

All content within this digest is sourced from third-party websites, which can be accessed by following the provided links.

NATIONAL - CANADA



How Rising Medical Costs Are Shaping Canada's Workers' Compensation Landscape in 2025

Rising medical expenses are putting increasing pressure on workers' compensation systems across Canada, with healthcare costs projected to grow significantly in 2025. Compensation boards are responding by investing more in early intervention and return-to-work programs while adjusting benefits to keep pace with wages and inflation. However, disparities remain between jurisdictions, particularly where benefit levels lag behind cost-of-living increases, prompting ongoing discussions about reforms and sustainability.

<https://awcbc.org/knowledge-center/trends/how-rising-medical-costs-are-shaping-canadas-workers-compensation-landscape-in-2025>

BRITISH COLUMBIA

WorkSafeBC Announces Average Base Premium Rate Unchanged for 2026

Employers in British Columbia will see the average base premium rate remain at \$1.55 per \$100 of payroll for 2026, marking nine consecutive years without an increase. WorkSafeBC's strong financial position and surplus funds allow the board to keep rates below system costs while continuing to fund benefits, prevention programs, and rehabilitation services. However, rising claim costs may put pressure on rates in the coming years.

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/news-events/announcements/2025/May/activity-related-soft-tissue-disorders>

Manufacturing Serious Injury Rate 44% Higher Than B.C. Average

WorkSafeBC is urging manufacturing employers to strengthen safety programs after data showed the sector's serious injury rate is 44% higher than the provincial average. The organization is emphasizing hazard identification, risk control measures, and preparation for upcoming regulations such as combustible dust rules expected in 2026.

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/law-policy/occupational-health-safety/regulating-chemical-exposure/decision-new-revised-occupational-exposure-limits-2025-june>





ALBERTA

Edmonton First Responders Call for Better WCB Mental Health Coverage

First responders in Edmonton have raised concerns about delays and barriers when accessing workers' compensation for psychological injuries. The discussion has intensified calls for clearer coverage policies and stronger mental-health supports for emergency personnel exposed to traumatic events.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/edmonton-first-responders-wcb-psychological-injury-mental-health-1.7567674>

Alberta Nurses Receive Faster PTSD Coverage

Alberta introduced improvements to the workers' compensation process that allow nurses to receive quicker approval for PTSD claims. The change recognizes the high risk of psychological injury among healthcare workers and aims to reduce delays in accessing treatment and benefits.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/alta-nurses-get-faster-ptsd-coverage-1.7593286>

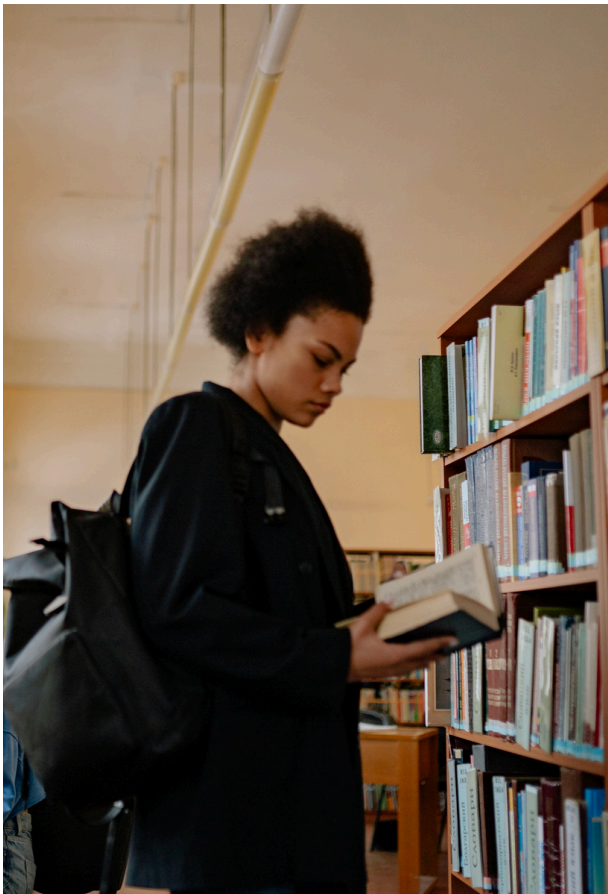


SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan Extends Presumptive Cancer Coverage for Wildland Firefighters

Saskatchewan's Workers' Compensation Board expanded presumptive cancer coverage to include wildland firefighters, acknowledging the increased health risks associated with exposure to smoke and hazardous materials. The move simplifies claims by presuming certain cancers are work-related for eligible firefighters.

<https://www.wcbsask.com/news/supporting-wildland-firefighters-presumptive-cancer-coverage>



Saskatchewan Marks Youth Safety Education Day

The province recognized Youth Safety Education Day to promote workplace safety awareness among young workers. The initiative focuses on educating youth about their rights, workplace hazards, and the importance of speaking up about unsafe conditions.

<https://discovermoosejaw.com/articles/saskatchewan-marks-youth-safety-education-day-to-promote-safer-workplaces>

MANITOBA



WCB Manitoba Releases 2024 Annual Report

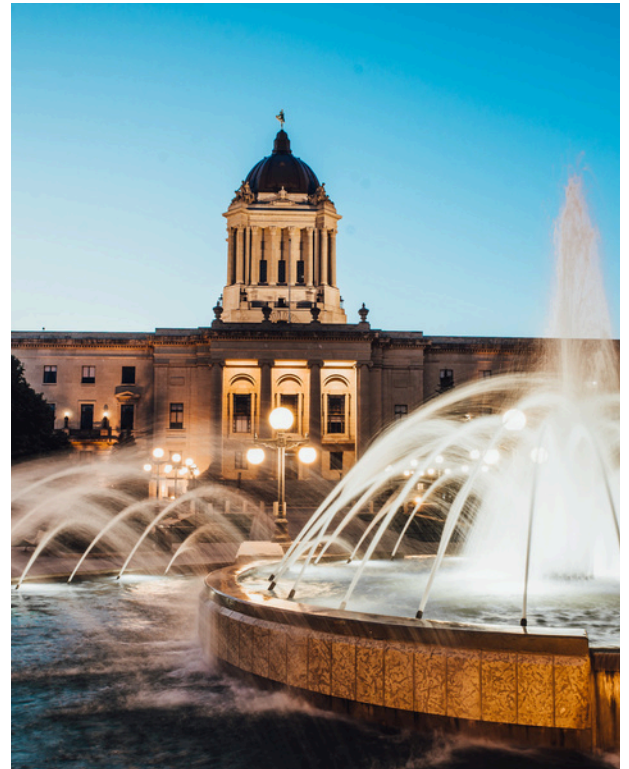
Manitoba's Workers Compensation Board reported continued system stability in its 2024 annual report, highlighting improvements in injury prevention, return-to-work outcomes, and financial performance. The report outlines ongoing investments in worker support programs and employer services.

<https://www.wcb.mb.ca/news/wcb-releases-2024-annual-report/>

Workers' Compensation Costs for Winnipeg Double in Five Years

The City of Winnipeg has seen its workers' compensation costs more than double over the past five years. Rising claim volumes and increasing benefit expenses are driving the increase, prompting discussions about prevention strategies and cost management.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/workers-compensation-costs-city-of-winnipeg-doubled-in-last-five-years-1.7558909>





ONTARIO

WSIB and OCEU Reach Tentative Agreement to End Labour Disruption

Ontario's Workplace Safety and Insurance Board reached a tentative agreement with the Ontario Compensation Employees Union, ending a labour disruption that affected services. The agreement restores normal operations and ensures claims processing and support services continue without interruption.

<https://www.wsib.ca/en/news-release/wsib-and-oceu-reach-tentative-agreement-end-labour-disruption>



WSIB Reduces Average Premium Rate for Ontario Businesses

Ontario's WSIB announced another reduction in the average premium rate for employers, continuing a trend of decreasing costs for businesses. The lower rate reflects improved system funding and strong financial performance while maintaining support for injured workers.

<https://www.wsib.ca/en/news-release/wsib-reduces-average-premium-rate-ontario-businesses>



QUEBEC

Firefighter Protective Clothing Program Announced

Quebec's CNESST announced a program focused on improving protective clothing for firefighters. The initiative supports research and prevention efforts aimed at reducing occupational health risks, including exposure to carcinogens during firefighting activities.

<https://www.cnesst.gouv.qc.ca/fr/salle-presse/communiqués/habits-combat-incendie>





NEW BRUNSWICK

WorkSafeNB Partners with Wounded Warriors Canada for Mental Health Support

WorkSafeNB has partnered with Wounded Warriors Canada to strengthen mental-health resources for trauma-exposed professionals such as first responders. The collaboration expands access to specialized treatment programs and supports recovery from psychological injuries.

<https://www.worksafenb.ca/about-us/news-and-events/news/2025/worksafenb-teams-up-with-wounded-warriors-canada-to-strengthen-mental-health-supports-for-trauma-exposed-professionals/>

WorkSafeNB Introduces Scholarship Supporting Safer Workplaces

A new scholarship program from WorkSafeNB will help students pursuing education related to occupational health and safety. The initiative also promotes awareness of workplace safety among future workers and professionals.

<https://www.worksafenb.ca/about-us/news-and-events/news/2025/new-worksafenb-scholarship-supports-students-and-safer-workplaces-in-new-brunswick/>





NOVA SCOTIA

WCB Nova Scotia Reaches 106.7% Funding Level

Nova Scotia's workers' compensation system has surpassed full funding, reaching 106.7% funded status. This milestone provides financial stability and allows the board to focus on improving benefits and services for injured workers.

<https://www.wcb.ns.ca/news/2025/wcb-nova-scotia-reaches-1067-funding-setting-stage-system-improvements-july-3125>

Changes to Workers' Compensation Act Draw Mixed Reaction

Updates to Nova Scotia's Workers' Compensation Act have received both praise and criticism from labour groups. While the reforms introduce improved benefits, some advocates argue additional changes are still needed.

<https://halifax.citynews.ca/2025/10/02/changes-to-workers-compensation-act-met-with-praise-criticism-from-n-s-federation-of-labour>



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Workplace Incident Highlights Need for Safety Leadership

A workplace investigation found that a serious incident leaving an employee severely injured was linked to a lack of safety leadership and inadequate hazard management. The case underscores the importance of strong workplace safety culture and oversight.

<https://ca.news.yahoo.com/lack-safety-leadership-contributed-workplace-230158916.html>



WorkplaceNL Reports Lower Lost-Time Injury Rate

WorkplaceNL reported a decline in the province's lost-time injury rate while maintaining a fully funded compensation system. The results reflect continued investment in prevention programs and workplace safety initiatives.

<https://workplacenl.ca/article/workplaceNL-reports-a-lower-lost-time-injury-rate-and-remains-fully-funded/>



MORE ABOUT TEKS**MED**

Thousands of businesses across Canada trust us with their disability management. Call us and start saving money. Our program literally pays for itself! For more information on our services, contact us today:

[TeksMed.com](https://www.teksmed.com)

T: 1-844-835-7253 (TEKSALE)

E: info@teksmed.com

A FEW WORDS FROM OUR HAPPY CLIENTS:

“Over the course of our working relationship, Fitzpatrick Electrical Contractor has found TeksMed’s disability management to be exceptional. Their knowledge of return-to-work best practices, WSIB law and policy, and overall commitment to customer service is impressive and extremely helpful to us, especially in this industry.”

- Fitzpatrick Electrical Contractor Inc. | Health & Safety Manager

“TeksMed has been helping our employees return back to work when they are fully recovered and ready to work while reducing the time away from their workplace and lost wages. This has led to a substantial amount of savings for Denny’s Canada.”

- Denny’s Canada | Human Resources Coordinator

“TeksMed has been working with us for the last 3 years and has been providing excellent workplace injury claim management services. We have reduced our WCB costs by 12% each year and have successfully brought our injured workers back to work sooner and safer. Their professionals have made me worry-free on the WCB claims, so I can work on other things of my duties. Their team has really helped our company throughout the years.”

- Van-Whole Produce | HR Generalist

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