

ITF (Industry Task Force) Association

Effecting positive change and ensuring sustainability of the workers' compensation system through the views of Alberta employers

WCB Policy Consultation

The ITF Policy Consultation Subcommittee met on August 12th to discuss member feedback on the consultation document and draft recommendations for discussion at our quarterly meeting on September 11th. Thanks to members who provided comments.

The subcommittee felt additional clarification would be beneficial. We have sent our questions to WCB and are currently awaiting a response. If necessary, an information session will be scheduled in September.

Industry Custom Pricing (ICP)

Repolling is underway for participating employers in the Construction and Oil & Gas sectors. A list of Industry codes WCB is repolling in 2024 is attached. If you are in one of these industries and have not received your repolling letter contact WCB. In the fall, WCB will finalize a plan for the other sectors.

WCB indicated they incorporated feedback from ITF, along with their own insights, to make final changes to the letters and fact sheets. They believe the revised letters are more concise and easier to understand, while providing balanced and sufficient information for an employer to decide on continued participation in ICP.

ITF requested clarification about polling options specific to the ability of a group to change the cost relief option (e.g. opt out of waiving cost relief) but still continue in ICP. WCB replied that at the June ITF meeting when asked about the options employers would be re-pollled on, they indicated they would be polling industries on the ICP option they were participating in and have followed this approach. This is an agenda item for the September 11th meeting, and members will have an opportunity to comment on the repolling process thus far.

Psychological Injury Working Group (PIWG) Definitions Project Team

The ITF subcommittee met on August 21st and the project team on August 23rd. WCB completed a review of examples members provided to illustrate the problems with current information regarding psychological injury

restrictions. WCB has taken steps to improve the level of detail outlined in work restrictions by providers (return-to-work services and community psychologists). The group is also finalizing definitions and working towards reaching a common understanding of barriers versus restrictions, which was a priority issue for this team.

Cognitive Job Demands (CPJDA) Project Team

This PIWG project team met on August 26th. WCB advised that 2024 CPJDA metrics have both been exceeded and feedback from providers is positive. Year to date, 31% of new primary psych injury claims have a [CPJDA C1447 Form](#) available (target was 10% to 15%). The total number of CPJDAs received for primary psychological injury claims has increased to over 450 from the baseline of 63. WCB continues to assess data availability for other metrics, including those to demonstrate the effectiveness of the CPJDA in improving return to work outcomes.

Care plan and update letters were recently modified to introduce language around how the CPJDA is intended to be used, and website resources and expanded training opportunities for various groups including physicians and nurse practitioners continues.

Upcoming ITF Association meetings

The next guest presentation webinar is on Wednesday September 4th starting at 1:00. Refer to the September 2nd emailed update for the link and an revised agenda.

WCB will provide an overview of the DRDRB role and current processes as the first topic. Dr. Vennala Thumula with the Workers' Compensation Research Institute will then present her research on Psychological Risk Factors and Functional Recovery. The Claims Management Roundtable will follow. Dr Peter Smith with the Institute of Work & Health will close the webinar with a discussion on his research regarding how return to work differs for psychological injury claims.

The next quarterly meeting and ITF Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday September 11th. The quarterly meeting starts at 8:30 am and the AGM will begin shortly after. The in-person meeting is at the Manufacturers Health & Safety Association in Rocky View.

August 2024

Industry codes WCB is re-polling in 2024

INDUSTRY	RATE GROUP	DESCRIPTION	ICP OPTION
CONSTRUCTION			
42129	411901	Industrial Plant Maintenance	Experience Rating
42156	411901	Storage Tanks - Erect/Dismantle	Experience Rating
89928	411901	Scaffold/Cranes - Rental/Erect	Experience Rating
01904	421501	Tree/Shrub Nurseries	Waiving Cost Relief
02103	421501	Lawn Maintenance	Waiving Cost Relief
02105	421501	Feed Lot/Corral Cleaning	Waiving Cost Relief
40901	421501	Power Line - Construct/Remove	Waiving Cost Relief
40905	421501	Pipeline Construction	Waiving Cost Relief
42159	423100	Caisson Operations	Experience Rating
42121	423300	Doors/Windows - Mfg/Install	Experience Rating
31507	426100	Dust Suppression Systems	Waiving Cost Relief
42122	426100	Mechanical Contracting	Experience Rating
42144	426100	Fire Sprinklers - Install/Service	Waiving Cost Relief
89605	426100	Service Station Equipment - Sales/Service	Waiving Cost Relief
35301	429201	Monument/Tombstone Dealers	Waiving Cost Relief
42131	429201	Vacuum Systems -Assemble/Install	Waiving Cost Relief
42160	429201	Electronic Equipment - Sales/Service	Waiving Cost Relief
40907	429930	Power Poles - Test/Preserve	Waiving Cost Relief
51502	429930	NDT Testing including Visual Inspection	Experience Rating
51503	429930	Oil/Gas Meters - Inspect/Test	Waiving Cost Relief
86403	429930	Research/Material Testing Labs	Waiving Cost Relief
86413	429930	Heat/Air Systems - Test	Waiving Cost Relief
86401	775909	Land/General Survey	Waiving Cost Relief
MINING, OIL AND GAS			
06300	071100	Upstream Oil/Gas	Experience Rating
06601	071100	Heavy Oil/Oil Sands - Research/Development	Waiving Cost Relief
51500	071100	Pipeline Cleaning	Waiving Cost Relief
51501	071100	Oil/Gas Pipeline Transmission	Experience Rating
73702	071100	Land/Permit Man Services	Waiving Cost Relief
07700	071200	Salt - Mine/Refine	Waiving Cost Relief
09200	091200	Seismic Survey	Waiving Cost Relief
09201	092101	Shot Hole Drilling	Waiving Cost Relief
42103	092101	Horizontal/Angular Boring	Waiving Cost Relief
42150	092101	Soil Samples - Procurement	Waiving Cost Relief
06306	429915	Wet/Dry Vacuum Removal	Waiving Cost Relief
09902	429915	Mobile Pressure Cleaning Services	Waiving Cost Relief and Experience Rating
09927	429915	Mobile Oilfield Waste Treatment Services	Waiving Cost Relief