

Notice of WHSCC Statutory Review Process

January 31, 2012

The Workplace, Health, Safety & Compensation Commission (WHSCC) is currently undergoing a statutory review. Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador has been working with the NL Employers' Council (NLEC) to understand the underlying issues. The NLEC, as the lead organization on this issue and one of HNL's valued partners, will lead a strong lobby for reductions in Worker's Compensation Employer Insurance Premiums throughout the Statutory Review Process. WHSCC has announced that reviews will be taking place this year and HNL will distribute the schedule when made public.

The NLEC is holding a series of focus groups across the province to discuss the challenges the worker's compensation system presents to employers like you both financially and administratively.

All employers are encouraged to attend. This discussion will educate you on Worker's Compensation issues, as well as provide the NLEC with valuable feedback to shape the position of the NLEC in the ongoing Statutory Review. Employers are asked to come prepared to share examples of how the high cost of the system impacts your business.

Each of the focus group sessions is FREE but employers MUST register online.

Clareville - Tuesday, February 7th

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Lunch Provided

St. Jude Hotel

[Register Now!](#)

Gander - Tuesday, February 28th

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Breakfast Provided

Hotel Gander

[Register Now!](#)

Corner Brook - Wednesday, March 14th

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Lunch Provided

Glynmill Inn

[Register Now!](#)

HNL will also be requesting a meeting with WHSCC review officials. As such, HNL is requesting your feedback to determine the key messages that we must deliver on behalf of the tourism industry.

Please submit your feedback to:

Lynn Taylor, Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador

E: ltaylor@hnl.ca

TF: 1-800-563-0700, ext: 222

P: 709-722-2000, ext: 222

For the last number of months, HNL members have communicated that there are significant deficiencies in Workplace, Health, Safety and Compensation Commission (WHSCC) of Newfoundland and Labrador processes, procedures and classification systems. The following is a briefing of information HNL currently understands about WHSCC and the impact it is having on the tourism industry and business in general.

Sample Issues identified:

- Reducing claims duration is not happening fast enough and the process is administratively burdensome.
- Too little emphasis is placed on developing modified return to work plans that allow workers to return to work according to modified duties.
- There are questions about the high rates and processes for classification of certain tourism services within the WHSCC rating system.
- The WHSCC process for employers is too onerous and achieving PRIME requires more effort than is rewarded for by achieving PRIME status.

Several critical statistics concerning WHSCC in Newfoundland and Labrador:

- NL claim duration is an average of 37% longer before returning to pre-injury duties than claimants in the rest of the country.
- NL premiums are 17% higher than anywhere else in Canada.
- 98% of the workforce in Newfoundland and Labrador is covered by WHSCC, which is unlike the compensation systems in most other provinces.

More information on the Worker's Health and Safety Compensation Commission can be found by visiting, <http://www.whscc.nf.ca/>