

The Employers' Adviser



Employers' Advisers Office

A newsletter by the Employers' Advisers Office, Ministry of Labour, B.C. Government.
The Employers' Advisers Office provides advice, assistance, representation and training on all aspects of workers' compensation.

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EAO Website: www.gov.bc.ca/employersadvisers



Out for Consultation

- OHS Regulations:** Part 8, High visibility apparel; Part 20, Equipment inspections for concrete pumping; Part 21, Blasting Operations. Submissions are due July 2.
- OHS Regulations:** Part 6, Restricted entry intervals and authorization to enter for pesticides; Part 26, Forestry - wrappers, loading and tie-downs. Submissions are due July 26.
- Vocational Rehabilitation and Cost Relief:** Amendments are being proposed to address the recommendations set out in *Restoring the Balance: A Worker-Centered Approach to Workers' Compensation Policy*, published April 2018. Submissions are due August 12.



Road Safety at Work is offering a no-charge four hour workshop to improve the safety of employees who drive for work:

- Cranbrook** - June 26th, 8:30am to 12:30pm (Building a stronger road safety culture)
- Nelson** - June 27th, 8:30am to 12:30pm (Introducing road safety tools and resources for your workplace)

Interested parties can [register online](#), or by contacting Angelina at angelina.robinson@roadsafetyatwork.ca / [604-770-2500](tel:604-770-2500).

Changes to the Workers Compensation Act - On May 16, [Bill 18](#) came into effect, expanding the definition of firefighters who will be eligible for the three compensation presumptions currently available to firefighters: certain cancers, heart disease and heart injury, and mental health disorders. Effectively, this change extends the cancer and mental disorder presumptions to forest firefighters and firefighters employed by First Nations Band Councils and other indigenous organizations (both are already captured by the heart disease/injury presumption), and to extend all three presumptions to members of a fire brigade who investigate the cause, origin or circumstances of a fire (i.e., fire investigators).

2020 Rates Sessions – Come Out and Say Hello!

WorkSafeBC is holding various information sessions about the proposed 2020 rates for your industry, injury trends, and what you can do to reduce injuries, claims costs, and your premiums. After the main presentation, there will be two break-out sessions. The EAO will be attending with WorkSafeBC. Hope to see you there! Here's the [link](#) to reserve your spot and here are the location details:

Thurs, July 11	1–3 pm	Richmond	WorkSafeBC Auditorium 6951 Westminster Hwy
Fri, July 12	10-noon	Prince George	Ramada Plaza Prince George Skylight ballroom
Mon, July 15	9–11 am	Nanaimo	Coast Bastion Hotel Ladysmith Room
Mon, July 15	2–4 pm	Victoria	Marriott Inner Harbour Pacific Ballroom
Tues, July 16	10–noon	Kelowna	Coast Capri Hotel Vineyard Sections 3-4 (main floor)
Wed, July 17	9-11 am	Kamloops	Sandman Signature Kamloops Hotel Savona Room
Thurs, July 18	10-noon	Langley	Coast Langley City Hotel & Convention Centre Half Cascades Ballroom
Mon, July 29	10-11am	Online	

Relief of Costs for Psychological Claims - The EAO was advised in April that there is a six month wait on relief of costs decisions related to psychological claims. The main reason for the delay is that there is currently only one Psychological Medical Advisor providing opinions for these decisions. The Board is actively recruiting.

In Case You Missed It - Here is a link to the [EAO Bulletin](#) outlining the Workers Compensation Act reviews currently underway, and the amendment to the Mental Disorder Presumption Regulation.

Have a Safe and Happy Summer!