

WCB Voice



Bill 18 – *The Workers Compensation Amendment Act*

Changes You Need to Know

Significant changes to *The Workers Compensation Act* came into force on January 1, 2022. Most of the amendments reflect recommendations made by a Committee appointed by Cabinet in 2016 to conduct a review of the Act. A comprehensive review of the Act takes place every 10 years.

Two key changes impacting workers in 2022 are:

- Psychological injuries, including PTSD, will no longer be categorized as an occupational disease. The same standards will apply to both traumatic physical and traumatic psychological injuries.

Another important change relates to claim information. Specifically:

- Employers must destroy claim file information they have obtained for the purposes of reconsideration or appeal within 60 days of receiving it, unless they make a submission in relation to the reconsideration or appeal within that time. Employers who fail to destroy claim file information or neglect to tell the WCB that they have done so may be subject to an administrative penalty.

All WCB policies and fact sheets impacted by the changes are available at www.wcb.mb.ca.

We're Open for Business!

WCB opens doors to visitors for first time in 20 months

With all of our staff back in the office since the middle of November, workers and other clients are now welcome to attend WCB buildings for meetings or appointments. We look forward to being able to provide our full range of services to employers and workers.

To help welcome you to the WCB safely, we've developed safe work procedures for screening visitors to WCB offices.

All visitors attending WCB offices for scheduled meetings and appointments or to provide services must show proof of vaccination. Employers, workers and their representatives will also have the option of providing proof of a negative COVID-19 test (taken within the last 48 hours) or undergoing a scheduled rapid COVID-19 test at the WCB office prior to their appointment or meeting. As well, safety protocols such as physical distancing and wearing masks must be followed.

The WCB continues to follow or exceed the province's public health orders and we will continue to review our safety and health protocols going forward.

We're looking forward to finally seeing you again, face to face!

Three Simple Ways to Report Workplace Injuries

The WCB has three easy ways for injured workers to report workplace injuries. Letting us know about your injury will help you get the benefits and services you need to get back to work sooner.

After you tell your supervisor about your injury and get the healthcare you need, simply call the WCB at **204-954-4321** or toll free at **1-855-954-4321**. Our call centre is open **Monday to Friday** (except statutory holidays) between **8 a.m. and 7 p.m.** Depending on the type of injury, your claim may be approved right away.

You can also use your smart phone or computer to report your injury online by visiting www.wcb.mb.ca/hurt-at-work-how-to-report-an-injury.

The third option is to complete a Worker Incident Form located on our website at www.wcb.mb.ca/worker-incident-report and mail or fax the form to our office. Our contact information is:

Fax: **204-954-4999**, toll free **1-877-872-3804**

Mail: **Workers Compensation Board, 333 Broadway, Winnipeg, MB, R3C 4W3**

It's important to remember that workers have the right to report workplace injuries to the WCB and employers have an obligation to report injuries to the WCB. It's the law. Reporting injuries helps ensure workers receive benefits and services that allow them to return to safe and suitable work.

A return to work plan helps you get back to work safely.

Learn how at
wcb.mb.ca

WCB
Workers Compensation
Board of Manitoba

