

# WCBinsider

June 2015

## 2014 Annual Report Shows Strong Financial Performance and Commitment to System Integrity

The Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba (WCB) released its 2014 Annual Report today. The highlights include a surplus of \$110 million and reshaping the organization to build a stronger workers compensation system for the future. The WCB also released its 2015 – 2019 Five Year Plan.

“Building on our financial and system security, we began work on key strategic initiatives that will benefit Manitoba workers and employers while also transforming the workers compensation system to meet future demands and expectations,” said Winston Maharaj, WCB President and CEO. “We are on the cusp of significant growth and opportunities and we are well-positioned to meet future demands based on a strong stable foundation.”

In 2014, work began on the development of a compliance framework that protects the integrity of the workers compensation system and a review of the assessment rate model. As well, the WCB introduced additional online services for employers and began work on customer journey mapping to better understand and enhance service to its customers.

The Annual Report also introduced a new measure of “days lost to workplace injury and illness” which is defined as the sum total of days the WCB has paid to workers in a given time frame. For 2014, 1.8 days were lost to workplace injury and illness for

each full time worker, down from 2.15 in 2010. This figure has been declining steadily over the past five years, resulting in less disruption to injured workers and their families and reduced costs to the provincial economy.

“This measure shows that workers are missing fewer days off work as a result of workplace injuries and illness which demonstrates the combined effect of prevention efforts and return to work initiatives,” said Maharaj. “Our prevention efforts helped reduce injuries which had a significant effect on reducing the number of days lost for workers.”

In addition, employers’ and workers’ focused efforts to help workers return to health and meaningful work, as soon as they can safely do so, is a key driver in the days lost measure. Effective return to work programs minimize the impact of an injury, promote recovery and benefit both workers and employers.

“Strong financial stewardship and successful prevention and return to work efforts by the WCB, its partners, and the workers and employers of Manitoba have made 2014 a success,” said Maharaj. “The surplus allowed us to announce a decrease of the average assessment rate for 2015 by approximately 13 per cent to \$1.30 per \$100 of assessable payroll.” The time loss injury rate also remained consistent at 3.2 per 100 full time workers in 2014.



## How are you doing on your Reporting Obligation?

To help our customers understand and meet their responsibilities, the WCB created a Compliance Self-Evaluator tool for employers. It only takes a few minutes to answer a series of questions to find out where you stand in complying with the WCB.

Find the Compliance Self-Evaluator at [wcb.mb.ca/compliance](http://wcb.mb.ca/compliance). Answering 'No' or 'Uncertain' to any question means there's an opportunity for improvement. For help in meeting your obligations, or if you have questions, call Compliance Services at 204-888-8081, 1-844-888-8081 or email [Compliance@wcb.mb.ca](mailto:Compliance@wcb.mb.ca).

## SAFE Work Manitoba VIPs – Voices for Injury Prevention

This fall, the SAFE Work Manitoba Committee Leadership Conference will bring together 300 workplace safety and health committee co-chairs to promote development and the exchange of best practices.

The theme of this year's conference is "SAFE Work Manitoba VIPs – Voices for Injury Prevention."

The conference takes place Tuesday, September 22, at the Victoria Inn Hotel & Conference Centre in Winnipeg.

Invitations and registration details will be sent to companies in mid-August. In the meantime, please visit [safemanitoba.com/safe-work-vip-conference](http://safemanitoba.com/safe-work-vip-conference) for conference information, which will be updated through the summer.

## Fact Sheets for Workers and Employers

WCB fact sheets contain valuable information and answers to your questions. Whether you are familiar with the WCB or not, our fact sheets contain important information you may need if you are a worker, employer, or health care professional.

We have updated numerous sheets that contain valuable information for workers, employers, and business owners for you to download.

For a complete listing of our fact sheets go to our website at [wcb.mb.ca/wcb-fact-sheets](http://wcb.mb.ca/wcb-fact-sheets).

We have a large library of fact sheets for workers, employers and business owners, so feel free to find the information you need based on your category. There is also a wide range of languages available.

## Making Payments to the WCB

Depending on your company's payment schedule, and your total premium amount, the WCB has several options for how you make your premium payments.

The easiest approach is to arrange for pre-authorized payments. You never have to worry about missing a WCB bill payment. Your premium amount is automatically withdrawn from your bank account or charged to your credit card on the applicable due date. If you have not already signed up for pre-authorized payments, you can visit the WCB website at [wcb.mb.ca/resources/employer-form](http://wcb.mb.ca/resources/employer-form) and select either the FlexPay Credit Card or Debit Card pre-authorized form. Once it's filled out, simply return it to our office and we will set everything up.

You can also make payments using the following methods:

- **Credit Card** (can be used if your total premium is less than \$5,000)
  - use our secure website at [wcb.mb.ca/online-payment](http://wcb.mb.ca/online-payment)
  - call us during regular business hours at 204-954-4978 or toll free at 1-855-954-4321, ext. 4978
- **In person at our Winnipeg office located at 2-363 Broadway**
- **Cash or Cheque in person at our Winnipeg, Brandon or Thompson offices**

Payments must be received at the WCB office by the Account Statement due date to avoid a late payment penalty. Debit, credit card and cash payments are credited to your account on the same day you make your payment. If paying by mail or through your financial institution please allow a minimum of three to five business days for your payment to reach us.

If you need to talk to someone about paying your premium, call 204-954-4156 or toll free 1-855-954-4321, ext. 4156.

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