

WCB INSIDER

December 2016



New Video, Web Content Help Explain our Rate System

In 2016, we began phasing in changes to the way we calculate your premiums. Some of these important changes were outlined in the brochure that you would have received with your rate letter in November.

To help you better understand these changes and how they might impact your business, we've created new information on our website that more simply explains our rate model and rate system. We've also developed a short video – titled WCB Premiums Explained – that provides an overview of how we set premiums and what you can do to lower your costs.

You can view the information and video by visiting wcb.mb.ca > **Employers** > **Your WCB Premium**.

Further transitional changes will continue to be phased in until the new assessment rate model is fully implemented by 2020. We'll continue to provide you with ongoing updates on these changes as they evolve.

We're committed to providing you with quality customer service – which is why we welcome your feedback. If you have any comments or questions, please visit wcb.mb.ca, click on Your WCB Premium, and rate your experience on the information that we provided you from any of the pages.

For more information, you can contact Assessment Services at **204-954-4505** or toll free at **1-855-954-4321**, extension 4505.

Average WCB Assessment Rates Set to Drop in 2017, Remain Among the Lowest in Canada

The average WCB assessment rate in Manitoba will drop to \$1.10 from \$1.25 per \$100 of assessable payroll in 2017. This is a 12 per cent reduction from last year, allowing the WCB to offer Manitoba employers the second lowest rate in the country.

The WCB's strong financial stewardship, as well as the commitment of employers and workers to prevention and recovery goals, made the rate decrease possible.

"Our rates remain among the lowest in Canada thanks to a number of factors like safer workplaces and healthy investment returns," says Winston Maharaj, WCB President and CEO. "The success of prevention and return to work efforts by the WCB, workers and employers allow us to continue to offer a competitive advantage for Manitoba employers."

Overall, approximately three quarters of employers will see their rates decrease or remain the same, with 43 per cent of employers paying a lower WCB assessment rate in 2017. Of those, 2,300 employers will receive a further reduction in their rate due to improved industry experience. Those employers with consistently low injury experience will pay the lowest rates within their industry.

"The best way for employers to keep their rates low is to improve health and safety in their workplace and strengthen their return to work programs," says Maharaj.

The gradual increase in the maximum assessable earnings cap also continues, with the 2017 ceiling set at \$127,000.





Follow us on Twitter  @WCBManitoba

WCB Manitoba Increases Presence on Social Media



As social media becomes increasingly popular and important in day-to-day business activities, we are pleased to announce that we are now on Facebook and LinkedIn!

People use Facebook to stay connected with friends and family, to discover what's going on in the world, and to share and express what matters to them. The WCB's Facebook page will have a wide variety of information including public awareness campaigns, sponsorship and job fair details, job openings, and more!

If you have a profile on Facebook, come "like" the WCB company page today by searching for "Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba".

LinkedIn connects the world's professionals and has more than 450 million members worldwide, and is the world's largest professional network on the Internet. Our presence on LinkedIn is in the form of a "Company Page", with the goal to raise brand awareness, promote career opportunities, and educate potential customers and stakeholders about our organization and services.

If you have a personal profile on LinkedIn, follow the WCB company page today at this link: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/wcb-manitoba>

You can also follow us on Twitter at [@WCBManitoba](https://twitter.com/WCBManitoba) for news and updates.

The Workers Compensation Act Review

The Workers Compensation Act Legislative Review Committee 2016 is asking Manitobans to help steer the direction of the workers compensation system into the future.

**From November 15, 2016 to
February 15, 2017, we will
accept your submissions at:**
Online: wcbactreview.com
Fax: 204-954-4968

Questions?

Email: info@wcbactreview.com
Phone: 204-954-6203
Manitoba Toll free: 1-877-358-0495

Committee Members:

Michael Werier, chairperson
Chris Lorenc, representing employers
Anna Rothney, representing workers
Ken Sutherland, representing the public interest

**The Workers Compensation Act
Legislative Review Committee 2016**
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Manitoba 

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