

Name of Presenter: Jim Devereux
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Good day Ladies and Gentlemen
My name is Jim Devereux

I was injured in April 1999 in an accident UIG in Thompson. Since then I have had 6 operations on my left hand. I lost my ring finger, and my left hand does not work function very well.

From day one I have had nothing but problems with the WCB.

Changes that should be made to the Workers Compensation Act.

1. The amount an injured worker is paid. Remove the cap.
Injured worker submits previous 3 years income and tax returns.
Average of the 3 years, a % is paid to the injured worker.

Whether my wife works or not should have no bearing on what I receive. My wife worked before I got hurt so that has no bearing on what I should get from WCB.

2. When WCB calculate weekly income
 - a) deduct an amount to what I would pay in unemployment, but that was not paid into unemployment insurance for me.
 - b) They deducted an amount equal to what I would pay in Canada Pension but the WCB did not pay that amount into the Canada Pension for me. For the 22 months I was off work I did not pay any Canada Pension.
3. Permanent Impairment Award this discriminates against older people. They deduct 2% for each year I was over age 45. I was 54 years of age when I got injured so 18% was deducted when I got my Permanent Impairment Award.

This is age discrimination.

4. In June 2003 I was awarded an independent living allowance, for lawn care and snow removal by my then Case Manager. I now have a new Case Manager and he see's things different so he decides to take the ILA away from me.

Now I have to appeal his decision. This ILA was awarded to me and was to be permanent, because I meet all the requirements but the new Case Manager sees the legislation different so he decides to take the ILA away from me, so now I have no choice but to appeal his decision as that can take up to a year, plus the frustration and worry I have to go through.

5. As an injured worker is paid for 24 months at 90% but after 24 months it decreases by 10% to 80% again this is wrong – food, clothes, rent the necessities of life have increased in the last 24 months but the WCB decreases the injured workers income by 10% instead of increasing it by 10%.
6. Last but not least

Please treat the injured worker with respect. And I can honestly say I have not been treated with respect

Thank you,

Signed