

Present:

Lawrie Cherniack, Chair
Rick Rennie, Representing Workers
Lynne Fernandez, Representing the Public Interest
Aaron Dolyniuk, Representing Employers

Also Attending:

Anthony Guerra, General Counsel
Nichole Mirwaldt, Legal Counsel
Wade Derkson, Senior Research and Policy Analyst
Joanne Machado, Senior Research and Policy Analyst, Recording Secretary
Gord McKinnon, Advisory Legal Counsel, TDS
Sacha Paul, Advisory Legal Counsel, TDS

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. The agenda was accepted as amended.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the January 29, 2026, meeting were accepted as circulated.

FOR INFORMATION

PRESENTATION: Rate Model and Classification Overview

Norie Cunningham, the Director of Assessment Services presented on the WCB rate model and went through an example of what goes into calculating a business' rate. She also reviewed the different types of classifications that are available and the methods that Assessment Services uses to determine which classification a business belongs in.

The Committee requested information as to how the rate ranges were determined for small, medium and large employers, requested a copy of the classification document and requested a document identifying the steps in the rating process.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee discussed the submissions received to date along with the benefits and risks of initiating further follow up with those submissions focused on claims experience. The Committee noted that each submission already receives an

automatic thank you response and that the LRC website and discussion paper expressly provide that the Committee cannot consider submissions about individual claims, employer accounts or other Workers Compensation Board operational issues.

The Committee discussed the possibility of enhancing the automatic thank you message to reiterate the website and discussion paper messaging. The Chair will reflect on the discussion and advise the Secretariat on how to proceed.

OTHER BUSINESS

As requested, the Secretariat provided additional data and context on excluded industries as discussed at the LRC's meeting of January 22, 2026. The information provided the formula used by the WCB when reporting the Manitoba workforce covered percentage in their annual report and when reporting to the Association of Workers Compensation Boards of Canada (AWCBC). It also included metrics on the numbers of firms that choose optional coverage, and the number and types of claims reported to the WCB each year that are denied due to the claimant not belonging to a covered industry and therefore having no coverage. It was noted that "No Coverage" data is not necessarily reflective of injury rates in excluded industries.

A member of the committee reported a conflict with an upcoming meeting date. The Committee elected to cancel the meeting scheduled for the date in conflict.

WORKPLAN

The committee reviewed the workplan for the upcoming months. Potential changes were discussed and that this would now be a standing item on the agenda.

The Chair of the LRC is meeting with the Minister of Labour and Immigration on February 26, 2026. He plans to discuss the workplan and committee member compensation with the Minister. He will provide an update to the Committee at their next meeting.

CONCLUSION

The meeting concluded at 4:41 p.m.