

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 Feb. 12, 2026, meeting were accepted as circulated.

FOR INFORMATION

PRESENTATION: WCB Health Care Services

Kim Keating, Director of Compensation Professional Services, gave a presentation on the role played by the WCB Health Care Services Department in the workers compensation system.

The presentation touched on the key roles and responsibilities of physicians, both treating and non-treating, how medical information informs claim decisions, some of the challenges around the quality of that information, and how the WCB facilitates expedited health care services to help injured workers return to safe and suitable work. The Committee requested no follow up information.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee briefly discussed the number of submissions received to date. The Chair requested that a reminder email be sent to the original list of ~450 email recipients encouraging them to get submissions in by the March 31 deadline.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee will receive a Communications update at the next meeting regarding webpage metrics etc.

WORKPLAN

There was further discussion about the December 31, 2026, deadline for the report and it was noted by the General Counsel that there remains conflicting information and therefore a continued need for clarification. The Chair advised that he would raise the issue with the Minister.

It was also noted that the Minister may appreciate a little advance notice on some of the draft recommendations. The Chair asked the Members to consider the matter and advised that he would be talking further with the Minister about it.

CONCLUSION

The meeting concluded at 4:21 p.m.