

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. The agenda was accepted as circulated.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the March 12, 2026, meeting were accepted as circulated.

FOR INFORMATION

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Candace Crossland, Vice President of Government Relations and Corporate Communications, gave an update on advertising and website metrics from October 1, 2025 to March 18, 2026. Candace confirmed that the media campaign will run until March 31, 2026 and that the LRC website will be adjusted after that date to confirm the closing of the submission period. The Committee requested that the LRC website retain the ability to receive submissions until April 8, 2026. Candace expressed her overall satisfaction with public response, noting more than 500 views of the Submit Feedback page and confirming that the approach to outreach and advertising was stronger than in previous reviews.

Candace also shared the template process for formatting the final report, which occurs as content is being created, and identified that the Committee should expect a request to approve the template in early Summer.

PRESENTATION: Fair Practices Office

Justin Beaudin, Director of the Fair Practices Office, gave a presentation on the role of the Fair Practices Office in the workers compensation system.

The presentation touched on the history of the office, its mandate, the reporting structure and the difference between the Fair Practices Office and the appeal process. The Director described the complaint process, gave some examples of typical complaints and shared the number and categories of complaints received over the last five year.

DISCUSSION:

The Committee reviewed a jurisdictional scan of worker compensation benefits from across Canada and discussed various aspects and models. A hardcopy of the document will be couriered to the Chair.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair requested that submissions that dealt with *The Workplace Safety and Health Act* rather than *The Workers Compensation Act* be shared with the appropriate government department.

WORKPLAN

The Workplan was reviewed.

CONCLUSION

The meeting concluded at 4:48 p.m.