

WCBUPDATE

December 2023

WCB Launches Worker Care Clinic Pilot

This past spring, the WCB launched a Worker Care Clinic Pilot Project.

A Worker Care Clinic is designed to provide injured workers with an option for timely access to medical treatment by physicians with expertise in workplace injuries and the benefits of safe and suitable return to work. A new reporting form will also be piloted which provides the injured worker with information on their ability to return to work and can be shared immediately with their employer.

“This pilot program will involve one clinic, KALO Medical Clinic, located in the northeast quadrant of Winnipeg,” says Jonathon Bahrychuk, Director, Compensation

Performance, Training and Quality. “Attending a Worker Care Clinic is entirely optional for an injured worker and it’s likely to appeal to those who don’t have a regular family doctor or who will appreciate the proximity to their work or home.”

There are a number of advantages for injured workers seeking treatment at a Worker Care Clinic:

- minimal wait times
- access to doctors with expertise on common

workplace injuries

- focus on new, acute workplace injuries such as sprains, strains and other minor injuries that do not require hospitalization
- onsite X-ray services available, facilitating the treatment of fractures that may require casting or splinting (including wrist and knee braces, as well as walking boots)
- capability to treat lacerations and foreign bodies in the eyes
- timely completion of

reports to expedite the worker’s WCB claim

Injured workers should call the KALO Medical Clinic, located at 1107 Munroe Avenue, on Monday to Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at **204-560-3585** to request an appointment.

If you would like to request Worker Care Clinic brochures or posters, or have any questions about the clinic, please email **workercareclinic@wcb.mb.ca**.



Adjustment in Compensation Tables Now Available

The benefit levels displayed in the Adjustment in Compensation Tables on the WCB website (**wcb.mb.ca > WCB Info > Policy & Legislation > Adjustment in Compensation Tables**) are for 1992 to 2024 accident years. The tables show the maximum annual

earnings levels and legislative amounts to determine impairment awards, and fixed-rate benefits for surviving dependants of a deceased worker.

On January 1 every year, the WCB indexes benefit dollar amounts and the maximum annual

earnings set out in *The Workers Compensation Act (the Act)*.

When a claim is filed for a work-related injury with the WCB, the claim is assigned an eight-digit claim number. The first two digits of the claim number indicate the accident year. This and

other information will assist in determining certain benefits payable for an accepted workplace injury or illness.

The Act that is in force on the date of the accident applies to that injury or illness.



Actionmarguerite Champions Psychological Health and Safety

When it comes to creating safe workplaces, Actionmarguerite has a track record of being forward-thinking innovators.

Last year, they were the first healthcare organization in the province to become SAFE Work Certified by the Manitoba Association of Safety in Healthcare (MASH), Manitoba's newest industry-based safety program.

With more than 1,000 employees spread across five personal care home sites - among which include nurses, educators, health care aides, housekeepers, food services and therapists - the health and safety needs of their staff are as diverse as their workforce.

"Becoming SAFE Work Certified was challenging because we had to look at every angle of our workplace: hazard assessments, job inventories and safe work procedures," explains Sheila Bayda, Chief Human Resources Officer at Actionmarguerite. "We did a lot of work in building the foundation and we still have more to do to stay certified."

After passing an external audit and creating an action plan, Actionmarguerite continues to evolve their efforts. Beyond physical safety, the psychological well-being of their staff is a key priority.



Actionmarguerite staff showcase their SAFE Work Certification, becoming the first healthcare organization in the province to be certified by MASH.

From left to right: Warne Champagne, Maintenance Engineer/Worker Co-chair; Lidija Lozanova, LPN, Committee member; Susie Nel. Piad, former Occupational Health and Safety Officer and former Employer Co-chair; and Sarah Schiller – Occupational Health and Safety Officer and Employer Co-chair

"Every week, I go out to our different sites for Mental Health Mondays, which features different topics and provides strategies and tools to support our staff," says Sarah Schiller, Occupational Health and Safety Officer at Actionmarguerite. "Staff also take part in a pre-shift warm-up every day, which helps to create a sense of community by bringing everyone together. Since they began, we've seen a decrease in musculoskeletal injuries at our St. Vital site by 19 per cent."

Judging by the feedback from staff, the framework of support that Actionmarguerite has developed is leading to positive widespread change.

"Our staff have been really open and are happy that I'm here to support their safety and well-being," says Sarah. "It's about creating trust, following up on concerns, and continuing to make progress."

Learn more about Actionmarguerite at actionmarguerite.ca.

A return to work plan helps you get back to work safely.

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Research and Workplace Innovation Program (RWIP)

Working with its partners, the WCB promotes safe and healthy workplaces, facilitates recovery and return to work, provides compassionate and supportive compensation services for workers and employers, and ensures responsible financial stewardship. As part of this commitment, the WCB has created the Research and Workplace Innovation Program (RWIP) to promote and fund projects related to prevention of occupational injuries, diseases and return to work of injured or ill workers.

The RWIP funds projects that contribute to the prevention of workplace injuries and illness, and to the safe and productive return to work of injured or ill workers. RWIP projects are funded under two streams:

1. Training and Education

2. Workplace Innovation

Generally, each project would be up to two years in duration and funded to a maximum of \$100,000 each year.

RWIP underwent an external review in 2020 to ensure the program's alignment with the WCB's strategic goals and vision. As a result of recommendations arising from the review, the following program changes were made:

- elimination of the scientific research stream
- a resulting change in annual grant funding from \$1 million to \$600,000

To be considered for funding, all applications had to be received by the WCB by October 31, 2023. Thank you to those that applied.

Visit wcb.mb.ca > **WCB Info** > **Research and Workplace Innovation Program** for more information.





Committee Leadership Conference a Success

On November 1, SAFE Work Manitoba hosted its annual Committee Leadership Conference (CLC) at the Victoria Inn Hotel and Convention Centre. More than 600 attendees of the sold-out conference took part in a day of breakout sessions and keynote addresses.

Among the day's keynote speakers were record-setting former CFL player and coach, Michael "Pinball" Clemons; leading expert in mental health and resiliency, Shannon Gander; and Olympic speed-skater and Winnipeg native, Cindy Klassen.

Attendees also took part in breakout sessions which covered a range of engaging topics such as inclusive wellness at work, diversity and culture, and effective communication among many others.

Stay tuned for details on the 2024 conference coming soon!

Safety's Gala Honours Safety Champions

Following the Committee Leadership Conference, the Safety's Gala took place in the evening on November 1. Now in its seventh year, the annual event is co-hosted by SAFE Work Manitoba and other safety organizations to celebrate workplaces and individuals who help make our workplaces safer and healthier.

SAFE Work Manitoba is proud to announce the following winners of this year's SAFE Work Awards:

- Worker SAFETY Award: **Robyn Grant**, Globe Property Management
- SAFETY and Health Committee Award: **JHSC Canteen Winnipeg (Compass Group Canada)**
- SAFETY Culture Award: **Insight Service Solutions**
- Norm the Safety Award: **Erin Tierney** and **Laura Gross** from **Sisler High School**

Six additional awards were presented by each industry-based safety program in the province. For the full list of winners and event photos, visit thesafety.ca.

Return undeliverable copies to:
WCB Communications,
333 Broadway, Winnipeg, MB
R3C 4W3
Telephone: (204) 954-4760
Fax: (204) 954-4968

WCBUPDATE

Have you Received your WCB Rate Statement?

The annual rate statements have now been mailed. Your rate statement provides you with your current rate and your rate for the coming year. It also includes information about your classification and how you compare to other employers in your classification.

The rate statement is for information only and is not an invoice – you aren't required to do anything or send us any payment. Many employers use this information to estimate their WCB costs and forecast their rate for the year ahead.

You can learn more at wcb.mb.ca > **Employer > Learn About your WCB Premium**

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