

# WCB VOICE

## WCB Delivers Its 100th Annual Report

Strong Financial and Return to Work Results Contribute to Successful Year



The WCB's 2016 Annual Report was recently tabled in the provincial legislature. The highlights include 100 years of success in building a workers compensation system that benefits Manitobans; continued enhancements to the rate model and customer service initiatives; and rewarding employers who have embraced prevention and return to work initiatives by lowering the average assessment rate.

"We were pleased to celebrate 100 years of serving Manitoba employers and workers," says Winston Maharaj, President and CEO of the WCB. "Employers' efforts and successes in injury prevention and return to work are paying off. That progress, combined with strong investment income, allow us to lower the rates employers pay while at the same time maintaining the benefits injured workers rely on."

The average assessment rate decreased by \$0.05 in 2016 to \$1.25 and the downward trend continues with the recent 2017 rate announcement of \$1.10. Since 2014, the WCB's two consecutive years of rate decreases returned \$85 million to employers.

"We are encouraged by the great strides employers have made with injury prevention, which saw the time loss injury rate dip below 3.0 for the first time," says Maharaj. "This, coupled with more employers embracing return to work efforts which minimizes a worker's absence from work, are paying off for both employers and workers."

The WCB also continued to implement the assessment rate model and focused on lessening the impact of transitional changes to small and medium-sized employers. Work on prevention initiatives continued with the time loss injury rate dipping below 3.0 for the first time.

The WCB is committed to reducing the risk and lessening the impact of workplace injuries and illness as well as ensuring the system is fair and efficient, with customers who get seamless service and with partners who feel their views count.

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## We're Making the WCB Website Better



We are continuing to improve our website, **wcb.mb.ca**, in order to better serve our customers.

Recently, we have created a printable version of website pages that is a significant improvement over the way the site used to print. The new print version includes just the page content you want, and none of the extra formatting and “behind-the-scenes” content that used to be included. Simply click the print icon and you will receive print outs that you can use.

Another exciting development is our new and improved method for choosing the resource that is best for you. This will make it easier for you to find worker resources that are relevant to you.

In the past, we had a resource section that included brochures, fact sheets, forms, videos, reports and presentations. However, they were organized by type (such as “brochures” or “forms”) instead of by use (“return to work” or “benefits and services”). Finding the resource that you need is now easier, quicker and more efficient. You can select what your role is and the topic you are looking for, and a list of pertinent resources will be created for you.

Finally, we soon expect to introduce a new look for our home page. The new look will include a larger, more vivid slideshow near the top. Our search function will also be improved, and will be renamed from QuickFinder to Search Our Resource Library. This will be at the top right margin under the slideshow items and will be available by July.

We will continue to let you know about any more important updates to our website as they happen.

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