

Workplace Safety & Insurance Board

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Commission de la sécurité professionnelle et de l'assurance contre les accidents du travail

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On behalf of the WSIB and its stakeholders, we would like to thank Mr. Douglas Stanley for the significant engagement he undertook towards preparing his final report: *Pricing Fairness: A Deliverable Framework for Fairly Allocating WSIB Insurance Costs*.

This report recognizes that Ontario's workplaces have changed a lot over the past 30 years, and the way we fund workers' compensation needs to change to reflect that evolution. It also identifies that we have to make sure we collect enough money to cover all our costs in a way that shares the financial burden fairly across all employers.

It recommends changes to the way employers are classified, and to the way premium rates are set – striking the right balance between rate stability and responsiveness.

The proposed Rate Framework could be described as a 'Made in Ontario' solution that considers and improves on some of the best features of the frameworks from across Canada, including New Brunswick, British Columbia and Manitoba.

The WSIB will be considering this report as it works with stakeholders to further consider and develop potential reforms geared to improve fairness in the rate setting process. Moving forward in 2014, we will bring forward options on a proposed Rate Framework for discussion with stakeholders. That consultation will provide a range of opportunities for stakeholders to have their views heard.

It is also important for the WSIB to clearly state that any reform of the Rate Framework will be a revenue neutral exercise across Ontario's workplace safety and insurance system and will focus on improving fairness in the premium rate setting process. We are committed to ensuring that any significant reform is implemented gradually and in a manner that fosters stability. Our objective is to consider reforms that ensure:

- everyone is paying their fair share for workplace coverage;
- a reasonable balance between premium rate stability and responsiveness; and
- stakeholders can easily understand and engage.

The WSIB actively promotes meaningful stakeholder engagement. The unique and varied perspectives of stakeholders on the issues we face are vital to our key decision-making processes. We recognize that there is much more work ahead, and are committed to working with our stakeholders to achieve further improvements.

Yours truly,

Elizabeth Witmer *Chair* 

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I. David Marshall President and CEO