

Schedule 2 Employers' Group Meeting Minutes



Date:	Wednesday, November 9, 2022
Time:	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Location:	Online Meeting via Microsoft Teams
NEXT Meeting:	Wednesday, February 8, 2023 9:00 AM

AGENDA

- PSHSA Updates
- WSIB General Updates
- WSIB Long-COVID Claims Update
- Employer Delegates round table re MSIP programs and RTW
- September 27 Educational Hybrid Event
- 2023 Educational Events
- WSIB Executive Updates
- Other Business

PSHSA UPDATES

- Webinar on November 14 from 10:30-12 pm - Workplace Violence in Education presentation
- Will be co-hosting a spring half-day event with S2EG with practical takeaways. Event details and agenda to be announced in 2023

WSIB GENERAL UPDATES

The following information was presented by Gavin Polkan & Debbie Jeffery (WSIB):

- Current organizational structure is undergoing some internal changes to better align for services being provided. There will be two lines of business – operations & account management. –
 - Hope to decrease business process that doesn't make sense and to embed more case management principles and return to work earlier in claim process
 - During Phase 1 (Current) – Reorganize leadership structure
 - Includes the merger of occupational disease, serious injury program & health services and healthcare programs together into the new specialized claims department
 - Phase 2 (2023) – Aligning work into new reporting of new organizational structure
- Escalation process – April 1 update on website to ensure clear guidelines and procedures
 - Ensure consistent approach
 - Improve track date and documentation
 - Documented process with prompts built into system

WSIB LONG-COVID CLAIMS UPDATE

The following information was presented by Sharon Vaz (WSIB):

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- According to the World Health Organization (WHO) long-COVID occurs in individuals up to 3 months following the onset of COVID and may last up to two months, with no alternative diagnosis/explanation for symptoms
- Long-COVID has up to 200 different symptoms associated with it, including: fatigue, shortness of breath, chest pain, cognitive disfunction (brain fog), and Post-Exertional Symptom Exacerbation (PESE)
- WSIB refers COVID-19 claimants to special assessment program to clarify diagnosis and recommendations for treatment and RTW
- COVID-19 case management continues to be done by a dedicated team. However, any time a COVID claim gets complicated (i.e. cardiovascular damage, organ failure) case management transitions the claim to the Occupational Disease team
- The usual 4–6-week RTW plan does not typically work for long-Covid cases. Best results seen when start with minimal hours and build up over several months. Pushing too quickly can result in relapse. Rehab is crucial to increasing activities
- Allowance rate was high at beginning of 2022, but has been trending downward since August 2022
- Within Schedule 2, 96% of claims are off benefits within two months

2023 Educational Events

- Hybrid event held in September 2022; positive feedback received
 - 177 attendees, with 60 attending in-person
 - Materials and recordings have been sent to attendees
 - If you require confirmation for CPD – send request to info@s2egroup.ca
- S2EG to co-host an event with PSHSA in spring. Details and agenda to follow
- Regular 2-day, in person, annual conference to be hosted in 2023 at the Sheraton Parkway
 - Tentative dates are October 18-19. Save the date to be sent when dates are confirmed.
 - Conference committee needs volunteers to help produce the event and welcomes any suggestions on topics and/or speakers

S2EG Executive Updates

- S2EG Executive has been meeting with WSIB about moving forward with a unique S2EG profile
 - This would be part of their change to service delivery in 2023 with a new initiative to tailor some services specifically for a S2EG-centric delivery model
 - Meetings are being held every few weeks to keep the development momentum going
- Angela Powell moved from being VP of Policy and Consultation Services to General Council
- Tiffany Turnbull now VP of Policy and Consultation Services
- WSIAT has reached out – reconstituting a WSIAT advisory group and reached out to S2EG to invite to participate. Only 6 employer groups and 8 labor groups

Next Meeting on February 8, 2023 – In-Person with Virtual Attendance Available