

Dear Panel

I would like to start by thanking you for having this forum; it was long over due. Injured workers in new brunswick have, in my opinion, been treated worse than animals when it comes to whscc and the government of nb.

I have been on compensation for eight years and have seen first hand the manipulation by case managers with their lies and total disrespect to the injured worker. I have felt the indignation of having no recourse in the decisions made with my health or retraining. I have felt what it's like to go without an income for a year at a time waiting for an appeal - twice. I have watched my family do without while waiting for a year and seeing things I required while working be sold off to pay bills. I have seen my son having to go to school without necessities so bills could be met. I watch my wife cringe not knowing what will be left after a year of waiting for a decision, meanwhile the panel, case manager or government official will not miss a meal or have to liquidate assets to pay phone, light or mortgage. Its like I said ,like animals, only animals have rights, try taking the necessities away from them they will bite or someone will step forward to stop the cruelty and that person will be charged, so maybe I am wrong because animals actually are treated better.

After living through this I feel I have a lot to offer to this panel. I have solid recommendations to help injured workers, as well as whscc who it seem only cares about costs and shareholders then they do help.

First of all, wait time must be shortened, this can be done by hiring more people to address the back log , this will only be temporary. Next the government will also have to hire more advocates to help with the back log as they are over worked now.

Then, wait time must be no more than three months and the injured worker should be paid while waiting this will ensure speedy appeals because whscc will not want to spend more than needed for wait time. Also this will give the injured worker less wait time and may not become stressed and could concentrate on healing instead of worrying about the bills and what they may lose. These are just a few changes that need to be made.

Thank you

Injured Worker