

31 July, 2006

Dear Employer Stakeholder:

The WSIB Board of Directors has set the 2007 preliminary aggregate premium rate for Schedule 1 employers.

The WSIB has introduced a number of measures to improve its fiscal situation. These measures have provided the WSIB's Board of Directors with the flexibility to keep the aggregate premium rate at \$2.26 per \$100 of insurable earnings. This is unchanged from the 2006 aggregate premium rate.

The decision to keep the aggregate premium rate at its current level came after careful financial analysis, and numerous meetings and discussions with employers, workers and their representatives. The Board of Directors of the WSIB appreciates the input and understands the economic challenges facing Ontario businesses. Like all the partners in Ontario's workplace insurance and safety system, the WSIB must continually look for ways to improve and operate at maximum efficiency. We are helping to alleviate some of the financial pressures on the system, and continue to look for additional savings. All of the partners in the workplace insurance and safety system will need to work collectively to address financial pressures.

The employers and workers of this province deserve credit for the significant gains that have been made. A lot of good work has been done, but we must and can do more. The WSIB's decision to hold the line on the aggregate premium rate assumes that significant progress will continue on key issues of concern to Ontario's workers – such as safer workplaces, and improved return to work outcomes for injured workers. By working together to improve prevention and return to work outcomes, we can further reduce the financial pressures on Ontario's workplace safety and insurance system.

Enclosed in this package is a rate-group-by-rate-group list of preliminary premium rates for 2007. Final rates for 2007 will be mailed to all registered employers in early November, after approval by the WSIB Board of Directors in late September.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the 2007 preliminary rates please contact Sharon Gilchrist, Director, External Relations at 416 344-4943.

Yours sincerely,



Hon. Steve Mahoney, P.C.  
Chair