

## Ontario Business Coalition Position

**The EAC is an active member of the Ontario Business Coalition; this was presented to Steve Mahoney on behalf of Ontario employers.**

Re: Funding and Sustainability of WSIB

- As a prime finding of the Chair's Consultation, WSIB must initiate a continuing dialogue with employer stakeholders to develop a comprehensive plan for long-term funding that places emphasis on reduction of claims and administrative expenditures.

### First Principles:

- WSIB operations should always reflect sound insurance principles and practices
- WSIB itself should not run an operating deficit - WSIB revenue and benefit payments must balance (i.e it should be a 'pay as you go' organization and system). Moving forward, the UFL needs to be reviewed and addressed as a separate issue and not as currently handled.
- Premium Rate Setting must be based on performance/experience, otherwise all companies would be paying the same premiums regardless of performance
- An Experience Rating (ER) system needs to remain as part of the Ontario WSIB. ER's PRIMARY function is risk equity. The spin-off benefit is prevention.
- Cross subsidization of sectors must not occur. Sectors must stand on their own two feet.
- Legislation should be changed to reflect the realities of workers' compensation in the 21st century (long range goal)
- There should be a structural review of WSIB as soon as possible (and not just once but on a regular basis)
- WSIB should attend to its CORE business and leave prevention to the SWAs (medium term goal)
- A second finding of the Chair's Consultation, a third party Task Force, comprising of legal and insurance experts (and other experts as required), must be struck to address the existing – and growing – problems of Claims Persistency.
- In order to facilitate the success of these undertakings and in recognition of the economic state of industry in Ontario, WSIB should announce that average assessment rates will not rise for a minimum of three years.
- Employers must always be engaged in plans for service improvement, rate setting, benefit level setting, policy amendments etc.