



**GREATER VANCOUVER
BOARD OF TRADE**

Greater Vancouver Board of Trade
World Trade Centre
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Interim CEO
David Crawford

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Kari Yuers	Senior Vice-Chair
Mary Anne Davidson	Vice-Chair
Evi Mustel	Vice-Chair and Policy Council Chair
Christopher Lythgo	Secretary-Treasurer
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Robin Dhir	World Trade Centre Committee Chair
Anne Giardini, O.C., O.B.C., I.C.D.D.	Immediate Past Chair
Brent Cameron	Member at Large
Radha Curpen	Member at Large

2018 – 19
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2012 – 13	Ken Martin
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1987 – 88	R. E. Kadlec
1986 – 87	G. P. Clarke
1985 – 86	A. S. Hara, O.C.
1984 – 85	A. M. Fowles
1978	D. C. Selman

July 18, 2019

DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL [Info@wcbreview.ca]

Dear Ms. Patterson,

Re: Greater Vancouver Board of Trade Endorsement of Employer Community Submission to the Workers' Compensation System Review

On behalf of The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade (GVBOT) we respectfully submit this letter in endorsement of the Employer Community Submission to the Workers' Compensation System Review, dated July 19, 2019. Our position reflects the concerns and priorities of the GVBOT Directors and our over 5,000 Member businesses and non-profit organisations from across the Greater Vancouver region.

For more than 130 years, the GVBOT has worked to foster economic development and to create wealth for our region by helping businesses of all sizes to grow and prosper. When businesses can compete and succeed, they create the jobs and tax dollars required to fund the services that we all count on. Balanced WorkSafe policies and practices are a fundamental component of healthy, safe, and productive workplaces that underpin the wellbeing of our workforce and economy.

The GVBOT supports the comments and concerns submitted in the Employer Community Submission to the Workers' Compensation System Review. We urge the Reviewer to consider the cost of funding the B.C. workers' compensation system, as this is an intrinsic and integral aspect of a functional system. In order to establish a sustainable workers' compensation system, a balance must be drawn between the level of benefit entitlement for disabled workers and the costs to Employers of funding the system. If the review does not consider costs, this balance can not be achieved and the system will not be sustainable.

Ensuring that the costs to Employers in funding the system remain financially sustainable and economically competitive with other jurisdictions is a key element required for maintaining and increasing the Employer Community's confidence in the B.C. workers' compensation system. The financial viability of the system is no less important than consistent, predictable, and clear decision making and effective and timely communications throughout the case management of a claim.

On behalf of the GVBOT thank you for the opportunity to express our comments in the review of B.C.'s workers' compensation system. The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade strives to foster the prosperity of our region by helping businesses to grow, create jobs and support our communities.

Sincerely,

Greater Vancouver Board of Trade, per;

David Crawford, Interim CEO

CC: Hon. Harry Bains, Minister of Labour, Government of British Columbia



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July 29, 2019

DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL [Info@wcbreview.ca]

Dear Ms. Patterson,

Re: Greater Vancouver Board of Trade Endorsement of Addendum to the Employer Community Submission to the Workers' Compensation System Review

On behalf of The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade (GVBOT) we respectfully submit this letter in endorsement of the Addendum to the Employer Community Submission to the Workers' Compensation System Review, dated July 30, 2019. Our position reflects the concerns and priorities of the GVBOT Directors and our over 5,000 Member businesses and non-profit organisations from across the Greater Vancouver region.

The addendum refers to the Terms of Reference 1 (f): "Whether there are any other urgent compensation issues that were not addressed in the final report to the Board of Directors of WorkSafeBC on how to manage the unappropriated balance in the Accident Fund." Given that the December 6, 2018 Final Report to the Board of Directors of WorkSafeBC prepared by Mr. Terrance Bogyo, entitled "Balance. Stability. Improvement. Options for the Accident Fund" (the "Bogyo Report"), was only recently made available and posted to the Reviewer's web-site, it was not possible to address this part of the Terms of Reference by the July 19th submission deadline. We thank the Reviewer for allowing the Employer Community an extension to file this addendum.

In addressing 1 (f) of the Terms of Reference, the GVBOT supports the comments submitted in the attached Addendum to the Employer Community Submission to the Workers' Compensation System Review. Particularly, we would like to emphasize that many of the compensation and benefit parameters in the B.C. legislation are among the highest levels among workers' compensation systems and, as per the Bogyo Report, "has historically provided compensation and benefits consistent with the upper range provided by other workers' compensation systems". For this reason, we do not believe there to be "other urgent compensation issues" within the B.C. workers' compensation system that need to be addressed.

The GVBOT would like to stress the importance of financial integrity and sustainability of the B.C. workers' compensation system, both of which must be factored into any recommendation made by the Reviewer in the present Review.

On behalf of the GVBOT, thank you for the opportunity to express our comments in the review of B.C.'s workers' compensation system and for taking the Employer Community Submission as well as this addendum to the submission into consideration. The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade strives to foster the prosperity of our region by helping businesses to grow, create jobs and support our communities.

Sincerely,

Greater Vancouver Board of Trade, per;

David Crawford, Interim CEO

CC: Hon. Harry Bains, Minister of Labour, Government of British Columbia