

## **Women of Inspiration Injured Worker Group**

October 15, 2010

Mr. David Marshall  
President & CEO  
WSIB  
200 Front Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5V 3J1

Dear Mr. Marshall:

### **RE: WOMEN OF INSPIRATION AND OUR CONCERNS PERTAINING TO WSIB FUTURE DIRECTION**

As you may know, our group is a support group of injured worker women, and we have personally met with you in the past at the WSIB.

At this time, we are writing to you to express our concerns about the release of the September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010 announcement from the Board.

In the cover letter of the announcement, you express concerns about the Unfunded Liability (UFL). You have outlined that the Unfunded Liability needs to be fully covered.

You have also indicated that in order to fulfill the need to cover the UFL, there will be modest increases in employer premiums, and a long-term plan for financial sustainability. You indicated that the system belongs to all of us, for this reason, you want all stakeholders at the table. That is why you are launching a yearlong Funding Review. However, this proposed Funding Review is of concern to us as injured workers, as we see no injured workers involved in this process.

The funding review panel excludes members of the injured worker community, while some of the members have no known experience and expertise on the Ontario Workers' Compensation system.

In this process, we would like to remind you that in the Ontario Workers' Compensation system there is a Historical Compromise whereby workers gave up their right to sue their employers, in exchange for a fair and just compensation system. This compromise is more than simply employers funding the system and injured workers depending on it; the language of your document suggests that injured workers are taking from the Compensation system, while in fact employers have historically not been funding the system adequately for the last couple of decades.

In conclusion, we would like assurance that the panel acknowledges and understands the historical compromise, and that injured workers will be involved in this process; we are an important part of this system. We deserve better treatment and inclusion, as this system was created for injured workers while protecting employers from lawsuits.

We hope that you will act in response to our concerns and will provide written response to our correspondence. We look forward to a meeting with you in the immediate future.

Yours Sincerely,

**Women of Inspiration Injured Worker Group per:**

Patricia Reilly  
Injured Worker

Maryam Nazemi  
Injured Worker

Cc: Ms. Judy Geary – Vice-President of Work Reintegration Program  
Honourable Peter Fonseca – Minister of Labour  
Honourable Premier Dalton McGuinty  
Mr. Peter Page – President of ONIWG  
Mr. Syd Ryan – President of the OFL