## Injured Workers Demonstrate in 7 Cities, Deliver Open Letter to WSIB and Parliamentarians, to Demand Better Healthcare from WSIB

For Immediate Release

**What:** Provincial Day of Action on Health Care for Injured Workers

**When:** June 10, 2016

Actions happening throughout the day from 10 am to 5 pm

**Who:** Broad sector of society including injured workers, community, labour, and

medical organizations

**Where:** Actions taking place in Toronto, Mississauga, Hamilton, London, Barrie,

Thunder Bay and Ottawa

On June 10, 2016, injured workers and their supporters will be demonstrating in 7 cities in a province-wide Day of Action to demand changes in how the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) provides health care to people injured on the job.

"For too long, the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board has not listened to our doctors and not covered treatment our doctors recommend. WSIB needs to change. Our health depends on it," says Sanghun Mun an injured worker and organizer of the Day of Action.

Injured workers will be delivering an <u>open letter</u> endorsed by over 140 organizations and individuals, as well as thousands of postcards signed by supporters, calling for changes at WSIB. The main demands are that the WSIB listen to injured workers' doctors, approve the treatments their doctors recommend and better protect vulnerable workers, like injured migrant workers and workers with mental health issues.

"As a frontline worker, I know what I see. Injured workers are consistently denied physiotherapy, medications, and medical devises that their doctors recommend," says Jessica Ponting, a Community Legal Worker at the IAVGO Community Legal Clinic. "It seems that the WSIB prefers to end claims based on recovery dates WSIB assessment centers predict rather than listen to doctors who advise further treatment."

The Day of Action comes on the heals of workers, doctors and advocates calling on the <a href="Ontario Ombudsman">Ontario Ombudsman</a> to launch an investigation into how the WSIB systemically disregards the advice of treating doctors.

The Day of Action is organized by Injured Workers Action for Justice alongside injured worker groups and supporters across Ontario. The open letter to be delivered to the WSIB, Minister of Labour, Premier and MPPs is signed by over 140 organizations and individuals who are standing with injured workers.

## Media Contacts

## Primary Media Contacts:

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