

# WORKERS' COMP IS A RIGHT

# 2018

## CAMPAIGN RECAP



# A Year of Growth & Perseverance

2018 was our first full year with the Workers' Comp is a Right campaign, and while it can sometimes be hard to recognize our accomplishments when we're in the thick of the daily struggle, when we do take a step back it's amazing how far we've come. Injured workers and allies across the province have done an incredible amount of work to give these issues a bigger public and political profile than they've had in years. Here are a few highlights...



# MPP Meetings

We had about 70 face-to-face MPP meetings across the province, including 30 meetings just in the fall alone.

Big contributors to this were our province-wide MPP lobby blitz in April, where we got 25 meetings led by injured workers and allies, and our two Queen's Park lobby days in October, where we knocked on the doors of 70 MPPs – every MPP who has an office at Queen's Park.



# Campaign Petitions

We've now collected over 5,000 petition signatures across Ontario. The petition is our main outreach tool, where we can ask people to take a small action by signing it, and then take it to every MPP we meet to show how much support we have.

The petition has been read out in the Legislature some 70 times, including 29 times just in the fall session. It was one of the most-read petitions at Queen's Park, up there with very high-profile issues like the minimum wage, the sex ed curriculum, and the cuts to social assistance.

# Actions and Events

We held actions at the Liberal Party Annual General Meeting in February, as well as the WSIB Annual General Meeting in September. At the WSIB AGM, they and the government jointly announced a 30% reduction in employer premiums, so we went straight over to the Ministry of Labour to have a presence there as well.

We also had 9 actions during our province-wide week of action in December – Barrie, Hamilton, London, St Catharines, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Toronto, Windsor, and Woodstock all organized events.

We had a loud and energetic Injured Workers' Day march on June 1st, as well as an election debate afterwards.



# New Injured Worker Groups

New groups formed in Chatham, Guelph, Owen Sound, and Sudbury in 2018 – a major growth for the movement, and a sign of increased resistance.



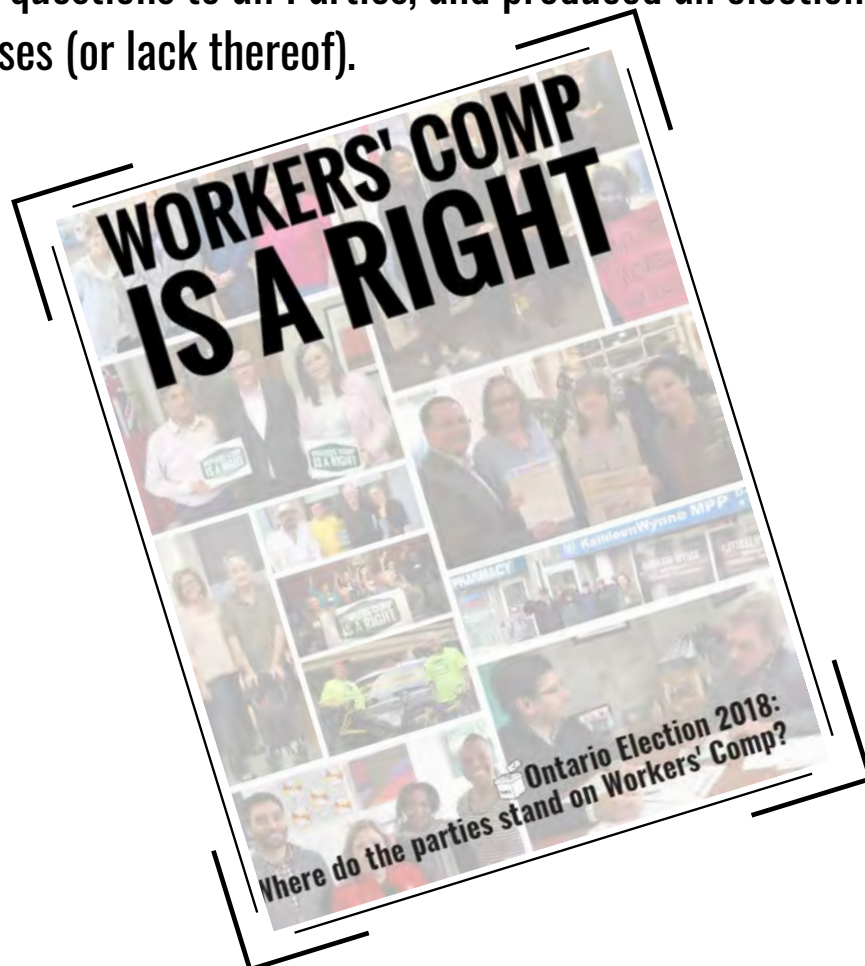
# Election Campaign Presence

The NDP platform included a section on injured worker issues. This is the first time in almost 30 years that any political party included an explicit injured worker section, and it would not have happened if we hadn't organized to make it happen.

We had a presence at many of Kathleen Wynne's campaign stops across Ontario, to the point where she expected injured workers to be there and had to prepare to give responses to their questions.

We attended many all candidates' debates during the election period, and made sure to ask questions about the key issues.

We sent key questions to all Parties, and produced an election kit based on their responses (or lack thereof).



# Summary

By every single measure, the campaign grew significantly over the past year, and the injured worker movement as a whole grew as well. This happened thanks to you all doing an incredible amount of organizing in your communities.

We're in for a struggle over the next few years with the Ford regime, but we're in the best position we can be in terms of growing strength and capacity in our movement. Onwards!



**NOW** MORE THAN EVER

#WorkersComplsARight



of INJURED WORKERS' GROUPS