

ITF (Industry Task Force) Association

*Effecting positive change and ensuring sustainability of the workers' compensation system
through the views of Alberta employers*

ITF Association Representation

Based on 2025 year-end employer assessable earnings, ITF members now represent in excess of 45.44% of total assessable earnings and 57.16% of industry-rated premiums. In 2024, ITF members represented in excess of 42.7% of earnings and 55.1% of premiums.

WCB Policy Consultation

The new Policy Interpretation & Application policy has been approved by the Board of Directors and is effective May 1, 2026. This policy applies to decisions made on or after that date, regardless of date of accident. The approved policy now only addresses and clarifies application of dates and provides definitions where appropriate. In addition, the Interim Relief Benefit policy has been added to the 2026-2028 policy plan.

The subcommittee recommendations regarding the Funding Policy were circulated to members on May 7th. There were no concerns raised and the ITF submission has been made. Consultation closes June 1st.

ITF Member Open Forum

The Member Open Forum was held on May 6th. Discussion topics included WCB's current approach to case planning, increasing the value of return to work planning meetings, late claim reporting, use of external consultants for claim appeals, and reliance on certain templates by WCB adjudicators in lieu of more active file management. WCB will be asked to incorporate a service level agreement for case planning as part of Reimagining Work. Concerns regarding active file management versus reliance on templates will be discussed with WCB at the June meeting.

If you would like to be added to the Open Forum contact list please let Melanie know.

Lunch & Learn Session

The Lunch & Learn session for interested members was held on May 27th. Discussion topics included strategies for dealing with claims where a decision was made or claims

are ongoing in the absence of an investigation or sufficient reporting to WCB, strategic approaches and optimal timing of a Request for Review, recent observations regarding Medical Consultant opinions that are questionable, and the need for ELP reform.

Industry Custom Pricing

The ICP subcommittee met on May 7th to discuss options and strategies to address member concerns regarding repolling options offered to employers for 2027. The subcommittee also discussed opportunities to enhance information available to employers in order for them to make better informed decisions. A key recommendation involves two part repolling. Recommendations will be discussed in greater detail at the June 10th quarterly meeting and an overview is included in the agenda package.

WCB Annual Meeting

The WCB Annual General meeting is on June 11th at 10:30. This is a virtual meeting open to all Albertans. If you are interested in participating, please register directly with WCB [Register now](#).

Upcoming ITF Association meetings

The next guest presentation webinar is on June 4th starting at 9:30 am. The Appeals Commission will provide their biannual update and discuss their management of Interim Relief Benefits. Kathleen Dobson with the Institute for Work & Health will present their recent research on mental health profiles of workers with a physically disabling injury or illness. WCB will join for a discussion of Interim Relief Benefit administration by WCB, and Occupational Health & Safety will then provide their annual update.

If you have any suggested topics for future webinars please let Melanie know.

The next quarterly meeting is on Wednesday June 10th starting at 8:30. The in-person meeting is at the Holiday Inn Edmonton Airport in Nisku. Please let Melanie know by June 4th if you would like to attend, and if it will be in person or virtually.

May 2026

Additional information can be found on the ITF website - <http://www.itfassociation.ca>