

Appeals Process in Workplace Safety and Insurance Law

Workers' Compensation Law Section

Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 | 9:00 am to 4:45pm
Location: 20 Toronto Street Conferences & Events
 20 Toronto Street, Toronto, ON M5C 2B8

Program Chairs: **Stephen C. Roberts**, McTague law Firm (Windsor)
Michelle Zare, Zare Paralegal Services Professional Corp. (Hamilton)



In-Person



Webcast



This program contains 1.75 Professionalism Hours
 This program is eligible for up to 4.75 Substantive Hours
The OBA has been approved as an Accredited Provider of Professionalism Content by The Law Society of Upper Canada.

Our Annual Conference is back again with a focus on the Appeals process. When a WSIB decision is appealed it proceeds to the WSIB Appeals Service Division (ASD) and then, if unsuccessful, the Workplace Safety and Insurance Appeals Tribunal (WSIAT). In order to navigate this system effectively, you must be familiar with both the WSIB-ASD and WSIAT Practice and Procedures.

Learn how these Appeals systems function and gain practical tips on the required forms, making written submissions and obtaining relevant documents. Understand how to obtain and evaluate medical evidence and advocate at hearings by making effective oral arguments. Leading experts will assist you in dealing with complex medical issues and handling Occupational Disease Appeals. A panel of WSIAT Vice-Chairs and WSIB Appeals Officers will provide key tips on how to present a persuasive case.

Join us for our popular Annual Conference and hear from new WSIAT Chair **David Corbett** at our keynote lunch address.

8:30 am Registration and Coffee

9:00 am Opening Remarks by Chair

9:05 am WSIB and WSIAT Appeals System

Michelle Lomazzo, Lomazzo Worker's Compensation Appeals P.C. (Windsor)

Robert Boswell, Crawford Chondon & Partners LLP (Barrie)

- Practice and procedures at the WSIB Appeals Service Division and WSIAT
- Presenting effective written submissions
- Obtaining relevant documents and medical evidence
- Time limit issues
- Advocacy skills and effective arguments

10:30 am Networking Break

10:45 am Tackling Medical Issues

Dr. Dory Becker, Omega Medical Associates

Cézanne Charlebois, Charlebois Associates (London)

Michael Kelly, Kelly + Singh LLP (Burlington)

- Tools to find and qualify medical experts
- Effective medical reports
- Forensic independent medical assessments
- Standard of proof for causation

12:00 pm Lunch and Networking Break

12:45 pm Keynote Lunch Address

David Corbett, Chair, WSIAT

Mr. Corbett will provide insight on the activities and future of WSIAT.

1:30 pm Occupational Disease Appeals

Michelle Alton, General Counsel, WSIAT

Irene Dias, Director, ODSBP

Laura A. Russell, Paralegal, CompClaim

Laura Vurma, Legislative Interpretation Specialist, Office of the Worker Adviser

- Understanding legislation and WSIB Policies
- Obtaining relevant medical evidence
- Weight of evidence and standard of proof
- Presenting effective arguments

2:45 pm Networking Break

3:00 pm Roundtable Discussion with WSIAT Vice-Chairs and WSIB Appeals Officers

Bernard Kalvin, Vice-Chair, WSIAT

Garth Dee, Vice-Chair, WSIAT

Kevin Gowans, Appeals Resolution Officer, WSIB

Kevin MacMillan, Appeals Resolution Officer, WSIB

- Making effective written submissions
- Use of WSIB Policies
- Use of medical research papers

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- Relevant documents, photographs, visual aids, surveillance and medical reports
- Use of WSIAT decisions
- Effective oral advocacy

4:30 pm Questions and Closing Remarks

4:45 pm Program Concludes

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