

Council of Construction Associations
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COCA Update on WorkSafeBC Activities #517 October 14, 2011

Where to Go for Help with WorkSafeBC Problems

COCA receives calls on a regular basis from construction contractors who don't know where to go for help with their WorkSafeBC problems.

Several COCA Partner associations have also asked for a COCA Update to provide a description of services that are available.

There are several excellent resources available for case specific problems.

1. The Employers' Adviser

The Employers' Adviser (EA) is a service that is free to employers – you already pay for it within your WorkSafeBC assessments. (The EA is located within the Ministry of Labour, not within WorkSafeBC so it offers independent advice and assistance).

The EA provides independent advice, assistance, representation and education to employers. They can assist with claims, health & safety and assessment issues. For example, the EA can help an employer with questions about difficult claims and can also assist with advice and submissions on claims appeals.

It is important to note that the EA has full access to the WorkSafeBC claim file and this can be very helpful when it comes to managing a claim or achieving a safe, prompt Return to Work.

The EA can also assist with appeals against Occupational Health & Safety orders and penalties from WorkSafeBC officers.

As well, the EA can help if you think you are in the wrong assessment classification.

To contact the EA office nearest you, please see the attached list of offices.

2. The BC Construction Safety Alliance.

Construction employers can earn a Certificate of Recognition from the BC Construction Safety Alliance.

This will help you to reduce injuries and costs. (The COCA Board of Directors created the BC Construction Safety Association that then merged with another association to become the BC Construction Safety Alliance.)

You can earn a reduction of up to 15% off the base rate by implementing an acceptable safety program and a Return to Work program. The BCCSA will help you do this. Here is the contact information:

BC Construction Safety Alliance

Tel: [604.636.3677](tel:604.636.3677) / [1.877.860.3675](tel:1.877.860.3675)

Fax: [604.436.0623](tel:604.436.0623)

Web: www.bccsa.ca

The BCCSA can also help with setting up, training and other resources on injury management from the BC Construction Safety Alliance. Contact: Vernita Hsu at 604-636-3686 or toll free: 1-877-860-3675.

3. The Nurse Advisory service at WorkSafeBC.

The Nurse Advisors were put in place over two years ago at the request of COCA. Nurse advisors can assist employers with return to work assistance, disability management and claim updates. This is a free service.

The Construction Nurse Advisors:

have access to ALL available WorkSafeBC claim file information.

will do job site visits to your worksite to facilitate Return to Work planning.

will assist employers to develop Injury/Disability Management Programs.

The Nurse Advisor can help to expedite a safe and early Return to Work, and this will reduce the duration of the claim.

NOTE: The Construction Nurse Line is open Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm:

CALL: 604-279-8155 or

Toll Free: 1-877-633-6233

Remember: You have a right to all of these services – but they can only work for you if you contact them to exercise your right.

Employers' Advisers Offices

Richmond: 620 - 8100 Granville Ave, Richmond BC V6Y 3T6

Tel: 604 713-0303; Fax: 604 713-0345

Toll Free within British Columbia & Alberta 1-800-925-2233

Abbotsford: 207-32555 Simon Avenue, Abbotsford, BC V2T 4Y2

Phone: (604) 870-5492; Fax: (604) 870-5498

Toll Free within British Columbia & Alberta 1-866-870-5492

Kamloops: 101 - 70 2nd Avenue, Kamloops, BC V2C 6W2

Tel: (250) 828-4397; Fax: (250) 828-4563

Toll Free within British Columbia and Alberta 1-866-301-6688

Kelowna: 102-1726 Dolphin Avenue, Kelowna, BC V1Y 9R9

Tel: (250) 717-2050; Fax: (250) 717-2051

Toll free within British Columbia & Alberta 1-866-855-7575

Nanaimo: 404 - 495 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 6B9

Phone: (250) 741-5500; Fax: (250) 741-5508

Toll free within British Columbia & Alberta 1-866-827-2277

Trail: 1050 Eldorado Street, Trail, BC V1R 3V7

Tel: (250)364-0730; Fax: (250)364-0731

Toll free within British Columbia & Alberta 1-877-877-5524

Prince George: 206, 1577 7th Avenue, Prince George, BC V2L 3P5

Tel: (250) 565-4285; Fax: (250) 565-4288

Toll Free within British Columbia & Alberta 1-888-608-8882

Victoria: Suite 400 - 3960 Quadra Street, Quadra Centre, Victoria, BC
V8X 4A8

Tel: (250) 952-4821; Fax: (250) 952-4822

Toll Free within British Columbia & Alberta 1-800-663-8783