

*Date*

Paul Dubé, Ombudsman  
Office of the Ombudsman of Ontario  
Bell Trinity Square  
483 Bay Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, South Tower  
Toronto, ON M5G 2C9

Dear Mr. Dubé,

**Re. WSIB refusal to recognize Chronic Occupational Stress disabilities:**

It has come to our attention that a complaint was filed by a number of legal clinics and private lawyers on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016, relating to the WSIB's ongoing refusal to acknowledge Chronic Stress injuries. As you know, the Board continues to deny Chronic Stress claims despite the Workplace Safety and Insurance Appeals Tribunal's assertion that the current policies violate the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Our organization strongly supports this complaint. As an organization that works with injured workers, we see the effect that the WSIB's ongoing refusal to acknowledge these types of injuries has on workers and their families.

*and/or*

As a legal organization, we find it very troubling that the WSIB and Provincial Government continue to enforce law and policy that has been determined to be in violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

*and/or*

As health care providers, it is disturbing to us to see a policy that treats identical work-related conditions differently depending on whether they were acquired suddenly or developed over time.

It is our experience that the negative effect of the Board's refusal to acknowledge work-related Chronic Stress claims can be profound for workers. It can create significant costs for these injured workers, their families, the healthcare system, and – if the workers end up on social assistance – to the public purse.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you have any further questions about my concerns.

Sincerely,

*Name*  
*Position*  
*Organization*