

# **TORONTO** Decision Letter

## Employee and Labour Relations Committee

Meeting No.	6	Contact	Josephine Archbold, Administrator
Meeting Date	Friday, April 27, 2018	Phone	416-392-4666
Start Time	9:30 AM	E-mail	elrc@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall	Chair	Deputy Mayor Denzil Minnan-Wong

EL6.1 ACTION Adopted Wa
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### **Occupational Health and Safety Report - End of Year 2017**

#### **Committee Decision**

The Employee and Labour Relations Committee recommends to the Executive Committee that:

1. City Council receive the End of Year 2017 Occupational Health and Safety Report for information.

#### Origin

(April 3, 2018) Report from the Executive Director, Human Resources

#### Summary

This report provides information on the status of the City's health and safety system, specifically on activities, priorities and performance during the last six months of 2017 and health and safety performance throughout the year.

There was a 12.7 percent increase in the number of lost time injuries in 2017 relative to 2016. There was a 2.7 percent decrease in the number of recurrences and an 8.7 percent decrease in the number of medical aid injuries in 2017 relative to 2016.

Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) invoiced costs increased by 10.6 percent across all firm numbers in 2017, from \$35.1 million in 2016 to \$38.9 million in 2017. Approximately \$9.7 million of the total invoiced costs in 2017 are attributable to firefighter cancer claims. Legislation introduced in 2014 presumes certain firefighter cancers to be work-related when specified conditions are met. The legislation, which is retroactive to 1960, provides that a total of 14 primary-site cancers are occupational diseases presumed to have occurred due to the nature of the worker's employment as a firefighter. In 2017, primary site skin cancer was added.

Excluding firefighter cancers, there was a \$5.5 million increase in Workplace Safety and Insurance Board invoiced costs. Much of this increase is attributable to traumatic mental stress and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) related claims. In April 2016, legislation was introduced such that if a first responder or other designated worker is diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder by a psychiatrist or psychologist, the condition is presumed to be work-related.

As of the beginning of 2018, amendments to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act (WSIA) will enable claims to be filed and approved for chronic mental stress. Any worker may file such a claim.

#### **Background Information**

(April 3, 2018) Report from the Executive Director, Human Resources on Occupational Health and Safety Report - End of Year 2017 (http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2018/el/bgrd/backgroundfile-114013.pdf) Appendix A - Workplace Safety and Insurance Board Incidents (January - December) by Division (http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2018/el/bgrd/backgroundfile-114014.pdf) Appendix B - Lost Time Inquiry Frequency by Division (http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2018/el/bgrd/backgroundfile-114015.pdf) Appendix C - Workplace Safety and Insurance Board Costs for all Firm Numbers (http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2018/el/bgrd/backgroundfile-114036.pdf) Appendix D (i) - Workplace Safety and Insurance Board Invoiced Costs to Year End (<\$50,000) (http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2018/el/bgrd/backgroundfile-114037.pdf) Appendix D (ii) - Workplace Safety and Insurance Board Invoiced Costs to Year End (<\$50,000)</p>

(http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2018/el/bgrd/backgroundfile-114038.pdf)

#### Speakers

Randall Pancer