

991119-05

**THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**RESOLUTION OF THE PANEL OF ADMINISTRATORS**

**RE: FUNDING PROGRAMS OF EXTERNAL GROUPS**

**WHEREAS:**

Pursuant to section 82 of the *Workers Compensation Act*, RSBC 1996, Chapter 492 and amendments thereto (the "Act"), the Panel of Administrators must approve and superintend the policies and direction of the Workers' Compensation Board (the "Board");

**AND WHEREAS:**

It is recognized that an effective method for promoting the reduction of workplace injuries and diseases and/or a safe return to work for disabled workers is to encourage and support external groups to undertake activities to further those aims;

**AND WHEREAS:**

It is sometimes desirable to provide a stable source of financing for programs through the assessment system established by the *Act*;

**AND WHEREAS:**

The increase in the number of situations where there are requests for support from the Board has led to a need for general criteria governing the processing of such requests and a delegation of authority to the President and Chief Executive Officer to decide requests;

**THE PANEL OF ADMINISTRATORS RESOLVES THAT:**

Requests for funding from external groups falling outside the grants and awards program and the normal operating budget are dealt with according to the following principles:

1. Funding must promote the prevention of occupational injuries and diseases and/or the return of disabled workers to work. The funded activities can include education, training, promoting awareness or other means of achieving these objects. The objectives must relate to specific issues in the industries, occupations or other areas covered by the application. The Board will not fund activities that should be done at their own cost by individuals to meet their general responsibilities under the *Act* and regulations.

2. Preference will be given to groups requesting funding where:
  - a) the governing body includes representatives of both workers and employers in the industries, occupations or other areas covered by the request, or
  - b) the group has members of one group only on its governing body, but the proposal is supported by representatives of the other group.

Consideration may also be given to requests from groups not meeting these requirements if the request is otherwise meritorious.

3. In order to meet its statutory responsibility for the use of funds collected under the *Act*, the Board:
  - a) must be informed of measurable outcomes related to prevention or return to work which the funding is to achieve and how the funding is proposed to be spent, carry out or require a needs assessment, and where funding is granted, be informed how the money has been spent and the outcomes achieved,
  - b) has power to audit the use of the funds and, where required, to terminate the funding upon reasonable notice, and
  - c) may require a formal program evaluation after a program is complete, at certain stages or before further funding is granted, and the appointment of a Board representative to participate in the group administering the funding.
4. The President is authorized to grant funding in accordance with these principles of an amount equal to or less than his or her annual signing authority per year for any period up to 5 years, or of an amount and duration that the Panel of Administrators may determine from time to time. The President must consider the need for periodic audits or evaluations for funding lasting more than one year. The President will communicate all approvals for the Panel through his or her monthly reports.
5. Funding may be provided by way of a special assessment on an affected industry or industries, or by using a surplus in all industries or particular affected industries. Where a request is limited to a particular industry or industries, preference will, where practicable, be given to funding from assessments or a surplus in those industries.

**DATED at Richmond, British Columbia, December 17, 1999**

**By the Workers' Compensation Board**

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**DON COTT,  
CHAIR, PANEL OF ADMINISTRATORS**