

2002/08/27-04

THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

RESOLUTION OF THE PANEL OF ADMINISTRATORS

Re: Criteria for Commutation

WHEREAS:

Pursuant to section 82 of the *Workers Compensation Act*, RSBC 1996, Chapter 492 and amendments thereto ("*Act*"), the Panel of Administrators ("Panel") must approve and superintend the policies and direction of the Workers' Compensation Board ("Board"), including policies respecting compensation, assessment, rehabilitation and occupational safety and health, and must review and approve the operating policies of the Board;

AND WHEREAS:

As a result of legislative changes to the *Act* relating to permanent partial disability awards and retirement benefits and the Government's Core Review of workers' compensation legislation and policies, the Board has undertaken a review of commutation policies;

AND WHEREAS:

The current threshold amounts for determining a worker's eligibility for a commutation of a permanent disability award have not been adjusted for many years and may no longer be appropriate;

AND WHEREAS:

Concerns have been raised about current Board policy that prohibits the granting of a commutation of a permanent disability award above a specified threshold amount where the award is calculated under section 23(3) of the *Act*;

THE PANEL OF ADMINISTRATORS RESOLVES THAT:

1. Policy items #45.00, #45.10, #45.20, #45.21, #45.41, #45.43, #45.44, #45.45, #45.50, #45.60 and #45.61 in the *Rehabilitation Services & Claims Manual* ("RS&CM") Volume I are amended as shown in the attached Appendix "A" to this resolution.
2. Policy items #45.00, #45.10, #45.20, #45.21, #45.30, #45.41, #45.43, #45.44, #45.45, #45.50, #45.60 and #45.61 in the *RS&CM* Volume II are amended as shown in the attached Appendix "B" to this resolution.
3. This resolution applies to new claims received, all active claims that are currently awaiting an initial permanent disability award adjudication, and all active claims that are currently awaiting initial adjudication of periodic payments of compensation to a dependant of a deceased worker.
4. This resolution is effective October 1, 2002.

DATED at Richmond, British Columbia, August 27, 2002.

By the Workers' Compensation Board

**MAUREEN NICHOLLS, CHAIR
PANEL OF ADMINISTRATORS**

[Appendices A & B](#) (PDF 145kb)