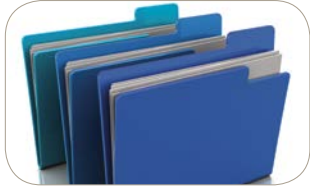


Insight

February 2018



2018-2020 policy priorities workplans

WorkSafeBC's Board of Directors has approved the 2018–2020 policy priorities workplans. Read about what we will be working on.



Permanent Disability Evaluation Schedule (PDES) 2017 Review

Stakeholder consultation for the PDES 2017 Review is now open.



Stakeholder consultation on 2018 regulatory amendments

Stakeholders are invited to provide feedback on three amendments relating to Part 8 and Part 20 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation.



Focus on the Future: 2018 Research Training Awards

Are you a graduate student doing research on occupational illness, injury, or disability? Learn how you can get funding for your research project.

Did you know?

The request for proposals for the next Research Training Awards competition will launch on February 23, 2018. Learn more at worksafebc.com.

Insight

February 2018



2018–2020 policy priorities workplans

The Policy, Regulation and Research Division (PRRD) consults annually with internal and external stakeholders to establish workplans that set out our policy related priorities for occupational health and safety, compensation and occupational disease, and insurance assessment matters. At their January meeting, WorkSafeBC's Board of Directors approved the PRRD's [2018–2020 policy priorities workplans](#).

The 2018–2020 workplans include three new projects in addition to items carried over from the previous workplans. The new items include:

- Schedule D of the *Workers Compensation Act* (the Act), Non-traumatic Hearing Loss
- Newly Recognized Occupational Diseases – section 55 of the Act and policy item 32.58 of the *Rehabilitation Services & Claims Manual* (RS&CM), Volume II
- Health Care, Chapter 10 of the RS&CM, Volume I

We're always interested to hear about issues affecting our worker and employer communities. Stakeholders can contact the PRRD any time at policy@worksafebc.com to suggest items for the policy and regulation workplans and to learn more about other policy issues.

Insight

February 2018



Stakeholder consultation on the Permanent Disability Evaluation Schedule 2017 Review

The Permanent Disability Evaluation Schedule (PDES) is a guide set out in policy to assist in the calculation of permanent disability awards granted under the loss of function method of assessment.

The PDES 2017 Review resulted in proposed changes to the Loss of Strength, Vision Disability, and Ears, Nose and Throat Conditions sections.

The PRRD has released the discussion paper for stakeholder consultation. As part of the review, the PRRD is also requesting general feedback from stakeholders on other areas of the PDES that will require review in the future.

The discussion paper with draft policy is available on [worksafebc.com](https://www.worksafebc.com) and we invite stakeholders to provide feedback. The consultation ends at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 31, 2018.

Insight

February 2018



Stakeholder consultation on amendments to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation

The Policy, Regulation and Research Division (PRRD) is currently consulting on three of the 2018 proposed regulatory amendments to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. These items relate to:

- Part 8, Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment, section 8.11 — update the standards for safety headgear
- Part 8, Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment, sections 8.14–8.18 — update the standards for eye and face protection and clarify stakeholder obligations
- Part 20, Construction, Excavation and Demolition, sections 20.1 and 20.17–20.26 — introduce regulations to ensure the safe erection, use, and dismantling of concrete falsework and formwork

The draft proposed amendments with explanatory notes are available on worksafebc.com and we invite stakeholders to provide feedback. Consultation ends at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 3, 2018.

Insight

February 2018



Focus on the Future: Research Services launches the 2018 Research Training Awards competition

Research Services is pleased to announce that we are about to launch our 2018 Research Training Awards competition. [Research Training Awards](#) are designed to foster the development of occupational health and safety research expertise in British Columbia.

Through this funding stream, we support the learning and growth of emerging researchers who are engaged in full-time training at the Masters and Doctoral levels and focus on occupational illness, injury, and disability. By investing in these researchers' work today, we are promoting the development of research expertise in the province for the future.

The award consists of a \$20,000 stipend and a \$2,500 research and travel allowance for one year. When evaluating applicants, we consider academic standing, proposed research topics, research training environments, and letters of reference.

The Request for Proposals for the 2018 competition will be issued on February 23, 2018. [Contact us](#) for more information, and subscribe to our email notifications to receive messages about all new funding opportunities.