



Never Give In

WorkSafeBC.... ? Well as safe as you can legally impaired!

WorkSafeBC seems to have a double standard where safety in the workplace and on our highways is concerned.

As a regular practice injured and disabled workers are sent back to work by WorkSafe under threat of loss of benefits while still on prescription meds that specifically warn against operating a motor vehicle or machinery .

Needless to say this is against the advice of qualified treating doctors and specialists who are often overruled by unqualified or under-qualified WCB Medical Advisors, or worse, Nurse Advisors (the WCB's official position when nurse advisors were first introduced to the system was they would never be used to overrule qualified medical practitioners which is exactly what happens in many cases) and results in scores of workers back in the workplace and on our roads under the influence of prescription drugs, ironically paid for by the WCB, including narcotics that would get,

for example, a truck driver subject to drug testing charged with impaired driving.

We are not talking about long term chronic pain which presents a more complicated return to work and pain management strategy, but the rush to return a worker to work while still dealing with an injury in the acute stages or post-surgical recovery. The result is leaving the worker with making a choice between working in pain, which is a distraction in itself, or continuing with meds to numb the pain, resulting in a recognised impairment and often an abuse of recommended dosages, and re-injury.

Ironically WorkSafe's top doc is well aware of the perils of narcotic drug use and the injured worker, but apparently adjudicative staff have as little respect for their own Medical Director as they do for the outside medical community.

So the next time Joe Happy goes smoking by with his crutches strapped to the side of his forklift you might want to run for cover!

UPCOMING ISSUES:

WCAT CLOUDING THE ISSUE WITH FACTS

More and more WCAT is imposing an increasingly adversarial and legalistic system with a clear bias against workers where the purpose of the rules are lost and only the rules themselves remain making a fair and just appeal system almost impossible for workers!

WORKSAFEBC RESTRICTS ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

WorkSafeBC now requires workers to get prior approval before seeing their treating GP's and Specialists.

Workers Compensation Advocacy

[CompoNet](#)

[Community Legal Assistance Society](#)

[BC Federation of Labour](#)

Workers Compensation Government Links

[WorkSafeBC](#)

[Royal Commission on Workers](#)

[Compensation in BC](#)

[Workers Compensation Act](#)

UPCOMING TRAINING & EDUCATIONAL COURSES

• [Workers Advisors Office - 2011](#)

[March 9, April 13, May 18, June 11,](#)

• [Rush Crane Guenther - 2011](#)

[April 7, May 6, June 10, September 23,](#)

[October 7, November 4](#)