



November 24, 2016

Worker's Compensation Act Legislative Review Committee

**Attention: Michael Werier, Chris Lorenc, Anna Rothney, Ken Sutherland**

**Re: Submission**

I'd like to share with you a brief summary of a past experience we had with Worker's Compensation.

One of our employees had experienced chest pains while canoeing at his cottage on the weekend. He didn't realize this was a heart attack and when his pain subsided, decided he was okay and did not seek medical aid. On Monday morning after reporting to work, he had more chest pains and went to emergency where they told him this was a "late presentation" heart attack. Worker's Compensation got involved and we were found to be partially responsible for this "jobsite injury". Setting aside the argument of whether or not a heart attack should be treated the same as a cut or a fall, I appealed this decision and subsequently lost largely on the basis that the Worker's Compensation Doctor (despite having never met or personally examined the patient) overruled the "late presentation" diagnosis of the attending physician and actually went to the extreme length of dismissing his self-described "central crushing chest pains" while canoeing, as possible indigestion.

I even tried to arrange a meeting with the Minister in charge of Worker's Compensation, Jennifer Howard at the time, but was told by her office that she wouldn't meet with me and furthermore didn't involve herself in the day to day operations of the W.C.B.

As incredible as all of this sounds I assure you all the events I've described are 100% factual. From my point of view all I can think of to explain my treatment is the old adage that "absolute power corrupts absolutely".

The good news in all of this is that our employee fully recovered. We have a very good safety record which I take pride in. I chose to fight this injustice more out of principle than for financial impact it had on our rates.

If the purpose of this review is an earnest attempt to improve the current system and provide fair treatment for all stakeholders I would be happy to devote more of my time to this cause, meet with you and provide documentation of all of my dealings in this regard.

Yours truly,

  
  
