

Appendix IV

Detailed Status Report of Recommendations Since 2015

Chapter Name	Department/ Agency	Year	Volume	Chapter	Par.	Recommendation	Self Reported Status
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	36	We recommend WorkSafeNB automate the claims management system to allow electronic submission and processing of claims documents, to reduce work and speed up intake and adjudication processes.	Not Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	40	We recommend claims be sent directly to an adjudicator after initial intake team gathers personal information and accident details.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	41	We recommend WorkSafeNB uses separate “Report of Accident” forms for the employer and employee.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	48	We recommend WorkSafeNB focus on return to work during adjudication by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identifying risks to return to work; • prioritizing complex claims, and • initiating a plan to address barriers. 	Not Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	49	We recommend WorkSafeNB communicate a detailed case plan with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • return to work goals; • proposed treatments; and • forecast date for recovery. 	Implemented

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WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	53	We recommend WorkSafeNB develop a treatment plan right after a claim is accepted and enable the adjudicator to communicate it to the injured workers.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	54	We recommend WorkSafeNB use disability duration guidelines to provide a forecast of return to work and include it in the initial decision letter sent to injured workers.	Not Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	59	We recommend WorkSafeNB require case managers discuss with injured workers their abilities, functional limitations and restrictions in determining the modified return to work plan.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	60	We recommend WorkSafeNB improve the adjudication decision making process by requiring adjudicators to document in the claim management system decision rationale with the key legislation and operational policy.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	63	We recommend WorkSafeNB include a clear explanation of potential eligible benefits with the initial decision letter to injured workers.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	66	We recommend WorkSafeNB develop specific competencies for the adjudication role and require all successful applicants to meet those competencies.	Not Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	75	We recommend WorkSafeNB update its guidance to promote early referrals to the workers rehabilitation centre, to maximize return to work outcomes.	Not Implemented

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WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	81	We recommend WorkSafeNB formalize the authority and role of the medical advisor and ensure both medical advisors and case managers understand their respective roles regarding medical opinions.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	82	We recommend WorkSafeNB: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • require medical advisor opinions to be formally documented and be restricted to the specifics of the medical condition; and • have templated, specific questions for case managers to ask medical advisors. 	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	84	We recommend WorkSafeNB have a plan to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • follow up with the injured worker in relation to treatment progress; closely monitor claims with modified return to work to ensure the modified work is suitable; and communicate with health care providers involved in relation to Workers’ progress. 	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	88	We recommend WorkSafeNB develop expertise for complex and sensitive conditions among case managers by allocating specific types of injuries to certain case managers and offering professional development opportunities.	Not Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	97	We recommend WorkSafeNB: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • expand the duration and level of detail in case manager training; and • enhance ongoing training for existing staff. 	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	98	We recommend WorkSafeNB monitor claims managed and provide feedback to staff on an ongoing basis to ensure adherence to policy and consistency among regions.	Not Implemented

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WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	101	We recommend WorkSafeNB annually review long term disability clients with a potential for return to work (for example, a change in functional abilities or a change in the labour market availability) to determine if the claim is still suitable for long term disability.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	104	We recommend WorkSafeNB propose to amend the legislation so that appeals go to the Issues Resolution Office of WorkSafeNB as a mandatory first step before an appellant can file an appeal with the Workers Compensation Appeals Tribunal.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	107	We recommend WorkSafeNB develop Key Performance Indicators which are relevant to the performance of its internal processes.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	109	We recommend WorkSafeNB define targets for its Key Performance Indicators and clearly state these on performance reports.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	111	We recommend WorkSafeNB link: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • key performance indicators to strategic goals; and • improvement initiatives to the Key Performance Indicators identified. 	Not Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	115	We recommend WorkSafeNB reallocate administrative tasks, such as loss of earnings benefit calculations, from case managers to administrative staff.	Implemented

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WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	119	We recommend WorkSafeNB build tools into the claims management system to free up staff from routine and repetitive tasks so they can focus on progress and treatments of injuries. Such tools would include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhanced data mining capabilities; system reminders to update client information; auto-complete forms; and automated medical claims processing. 	Not Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	131	When tendering the contract for medical services again in 2019, we recommend WorkSafeNB: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure tender requirements are comprehensive to minimize the need for significant changes after the tender is issued; and follow procurement regulations and best practices to ensure transparency, fairness, and competitiveness of the bidding process. 	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	133	We recommend WorkSafeNB use a shorter initial term with an option to renew, when the contract for medical services is tendered in 2019.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	135	We recommend that WorkSafeNB include contract terms addressing intellectual property rights in future contracts for medical and rehabilitation services.	Implemented
WorkSafeNB Phase II – Management of Injured Workers’ Claims	WorkSafeNB	2018	2	3	141	We recommend WorkSafeNB use progress reports received from physiotherapy clinics to monitor injured workers during treatment.	Implemented
Follow Up on Recommendatio ns from Prior Years’ Performance Audit Chapters	Executive Council Office	2018	2	4	86	We recommend the Executive Council Office ensure Crown agencies comply with the requirement of the Annual Report Guidelines to report the status of recommendations from the Auditor General in their annual report.	Implemented

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Follow Up on Recommendations from Prior Years' Performance Audit Chapters	Executive Council Office	2018	2	4	90	We recommend the Annual Report Guidelines be amended to direct departments and Crown agencies to report on the status of "implemented" recommendations instead of "adopted" recommendations.	Not Implemented