

Injured Workers Advocacy/Health & Safety Committees Conference

September 9th - 13th 2015

Delta City Centre, Ottawa

I would like to thank the Union for allowing me to attend the Injured Workers Advocacy/Health & Safety Committees Conference held in held at the Delta City Centre in Ottawa.

On Wednesday we heard from Fred Hahn, President of CUPE Ontario and keynote speaker Dr Martin Shain who was instrumental in the development of the CSA standard Z1003 Psychological Health and Safety in the Workplace.

During Thursday's sessions presentations were given on Workplace Violence with Tina Dunlop from the Public Services Health & Safety Association; WSIB Appeals with Aaron Kember from the Workplace Safety & Insurance Board and Psychosocial Hazards with Dave Gallson from the Mood Disorders Society of Canada. These presentations were followed by questions and answer sessions with the panel as well as CUPE WSIB & Health & Safety Specialists.

Friday's panel speakers were Randy Slepchik, a lawyer from Jewitt, McLuckie & Associates discussing Long Term Disability Claim & Appeals; Anne Didier a CUPE Nation rep discussing what makes a good Employee Assistance Program and Dr Lori Gray a psychologist from the City of Toronto discussing Peer-support programs. In the afternoon I attended a workshop on workplace investigations.

The Mental Injury Toolkit was presented by John Oudyk from the Occupational Health Clinic from Ontario Workers (OHCOW) and Sjors Reijers from the Mental Health Commission of Canada presented Mental Health First Aid on Saturday. We also heard from Richard Hudon a worker who lost both is legs when he was 17, over 50 years later he still raising awareness for injured Workers Rights and Ontario Network of Injured Workers' Group (ONIWG). On Saturday Afternoon I attended a workshop on WSIB Appeals.

I look forward to continuing to build my skills and knowledge and use it to assist our members when they need it.

Tammi Glasgow

Joint Health & Safety Committee co-chair
WSIB & RTW Steward