



How Characteristics of Workers' Compensation Systems Affect Doctors: A Comparative Study of Québec and Ontario

Keynote Speakers



Katherine Lippel
Chairholder and Full Professor
Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa
Katherine specializes in occupational health and safety law including issues related to workers' compensation.



Joan Eakin
Professor Emerita, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto
Joan's research focuses on the social dimensions of work and health, including the occupational health and safety system.



Linn Holness
Professor University of Toronto and Physician, St Michael's Hospital
Linn's research focuses on occupational disease, its prevention and health services.



Dana Howse
PhD Candidate, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto
Dana's dissertation research examines the compensation claiming process from the perspective of injured workers.

Keynote Abstract

The speakers will present on their study about the challenges of medical evidence in workers' compensation. The study examined similarities and differences between the workers' compensation systems in Ontario and Québec and their implications for the role, practices and perspectives of doctors. Similarities included: 1) doctors played key gatekeeping roles in both systems (control access); 2) the bureaucratic process was problematic for treating physicians; 3) the doctors' gatekeeping role was a source of discomfort and difficulty for treating physicians; 4) decisions as to work relatedness were reserved for the workers' compensation board. Key differences included: 1) the opinion of the treating physician in Québec was binding on the board on a number of issues, and formal contestation proceedings were required if the board or employers wished to set aside those opinions; 2) Ontario physicians played somewhat different though less visible gatekeeping roles. Implications for doctors and workers will be discussed.

Time, Venue and Agenda

Thursday May 14, 2015
10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

New Location

Charbonnel Lounge, University of St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto
81 St. Mary Street, Toronto, ON M5S 1J4

Agenda

Welcome and Introduction

Keynote Presentation

Injured Worker Presentations

Panel Commentary

Including Laura Lunansky, Injured Workers Consultants (IWC); and David Chezzi, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE).

General Discussion

Closing Comments

Refreshments to be served. RSVP appreciated but not necessary: BancroftInstitute@gmail.com
The event is free, with a suggested donation of \$10 for waged attendees. Tokens available for the unwaged.



Charbonnel
Lounge
St. Michael's
College
University of
Toronto
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Street

