



## NEWS RELEASE

# **New research centre to help injured, ill and disabled workers stay in job market**

## ***Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy aims to improve Canada's fragmented work disability policy system***

**February 4, 2014 (Hamilton, Ontario)**—Vancouver-based Krystal Johnston, 29, has carpal tunnel syndrome. Two surgeries, one on each wrist, failed to fix the loss of feeling in her hands and arms.

Her doctor told her she is unlikely to return to ironworking, a job she loves. What's more, she was denied her claim for workers' compensation benefits, has used up her Employment Insurance Sickness Benefits (EI-DB), and will run out of her union disability benefits within months.

Johnston wants to work, but needs help. "I'm doing it all on my own," she says. "I don't know where to find support. I just never thought that if I ever got hurt I would be kicked out on the porch in the rain."

Workers like Johnston across Canada are losing their attachment to the labour force after they become injured, ill or disabled, slipping through the cracks of a disability policy system that is increasingly out of tune with the nature of today's work and workers.

How many workers with disabilities are not getting the supports needed to enter, remain in or return to the job market, and why? What policy changes are needed to ensure that all Canadians can work, regardless of their ability, in order to make a living and contribute to Canada's economy?

These are among the questions to be tackled by a new research centre being launched today at McMaster University. The Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy (CRWDP) aims to develop evidence-based policy options that will allow Canada's current disability policy system to provide better income support and labour-market engagement for people when they are injured, ill or disabled.

"Throughout my six years in office, I've spoken to employer groups, service clubs and community organizations around the province about the strong economic case for employing people with disabilities," the Hon. David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, said last month in his new year's message. "I'm pleased to say that I've witnessed some great progress, but there is still more work to do." His Honour, a long-time advocate for people with disabilities, is speaking at today's launch.

Also speaking are Alberta MP Mike Lake, whose 17-year-old son with autism is preparing to enter the world of permanent work, and Sarnia, Ont., Mayor Mike Bradley, who has called on all mayors in the province to take up the challenge of hiring people with disabilities. "Employment for the disabled is a

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civil right,” says Bradley. “This exciting new national initiative can and will make a difference for disabled Canadians in opening up job markets, skills and minds.”

The new research centre is a seven-year initiative funded by the federal Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). Co-led by Drs. Emile Tompa and Ellen MacEachen, senior scientists at the Institute for Work & Health in Toronto, the centre includes regional hubs in British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, and Newfoundland and Labrador.

The centre also involves 46 partners from across the country. These partners represent disability and injured worker community organizations, provincial and federal-level disability support program providers, labour organizations and employers, and research institutions.

According to Statistics Canada, about 2.3 million people in Canada between the ages of 15 and 64—representing one in ten working-age Canadians—reported in 2012 that they were sometimes or often limited in their daily activity due to a long-lasting health impairment.

“Taking into account all forms of disability—acute or chronic, temporary or episodic, physical or mental, coming early in life or late, work-related or otherwise—it’s not hard to see that work disability touches most people at some point in their lives,” says Tompa. “We are bringing together academic talent from across the country and working closely with partners to identify a roadmap for the future of work disability policy in Canada.”

“More and more people with health conditions or impairments are falling into the grey zone of unemployment,” adds MacEachen. “They can and want to work, and need help to get there, yet may not qualify for work integration support from any one program. With our partners, we will do research to help us understand how this is happening and how our system might be improved to address it.”

See backgrounders (the [full news release package](#) is also available as a PDF):

- [About the Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy \(CRWDP\)](#)
- [At a glance: Canada’s current disability support system](#)
- [CRWDP national launch event speakers](#)
- [Quotes on CRWDP from launch speakers and other supporters](#)
- [A personal profile: Krystal Johnston, 29, Vancouver](#)
- [Resources for more information on CRWDP](#)

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## Improving Canadian work disability policy to help all people access employment

### **BACKGROUND**

## **About the Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy (CRWDP)**

February 4, 2014

### ***Why is a research centre on work disability policy needed?***

- Research shows that [unemployment and underemployment are associated with poorer health](#). Continued attachment to work in the face of a temporary or long-term work disability fosters social inclusion, retains talent and provides individuals with an income. Yet today's disability policy system is not supporting this attachment to work as well as it could. Work disability policy needs to adapt to a changing labour market, and to changing work and health environments.
- Work disability occurs when a person is unable to find, remain at or return to work due to a health condition or impairment. Taking into account all forms of disability—whether acute or chronic, temporary or episodic, physical or mental, coming early in life or late, work-related or otherwise—work disability is likely to touch most people at some point in their lives.
- The current disability policy system in Canada was built over several decades, with different parts designed to meet different needs. This has resulted in a fragmented system of largely uncoordinated parts (see the [backgrounder on Canada's current disability support system](#) in this package). Conflicting and out-of-date requirements across disability support programs mean people are shuffled between programs and can fall through the cracks.
- The nature of work has changed. The long-term, full-time jobs that predominantly characterized the labour market for which the current system was built are increasingly being replaced by part-time, temporary and/or casual work. As a result, parts of the working-age population are not supported very well by the current system if they fall ill, get injured, or have a chronic or episodic disability.
- The nature of the workforce has also changed. An aging population means chronic and episodic disabilities are on the increase, and people with these types of illnesses often struggle to find accommodation or access support.

### ***How will this new research centre help address these issues?***

- The Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy (CRWDP) will lay the foundations for a national, evidence-informed, coordinated approach to supporting people with work disabilities in Canada.
- The centre's overall objective is to identify how people, when disabled, can be better retained and integrated into the Canadian labour market.
- The ultimate goals of the centre's research program are to improve public policy that fosters paid labour-market engagement of people with disabilities, and to establish the field of work disability policy in Canadian universities.

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- The centre is unique in that it bridges the divide between workers' compensation programs, social security programs such as Canada/Quebec Pension Plan-Disability (CPP-D or QPP-D) and Employment Insurance Sickness Benefits (EI-SB), employer short- and long-term disability benefit programs, and other work disability support programs.
- The CRWDP mandate is to:
  - provide a forum for within- and cross-provincial and national dialogue on challenges and opportunities for improving the Canadian work disability policy system;
  - identify problems and challenges associated with program coordination and complexity;
  - identify relevant and favourable alternative approaches to system design and service provision through select comparisons with countries and small-scale trials;
  - mobilize knowledge developed within and outside of the centre in order to inform policy; and
  - build capacity for research and knowledge mobilization on the topic of work disability policy and labour-market engagement of individuals with disabilities.

### ***What does the centre mean by 'work disability policy'?***

- By 'work disability policy,' the centre is referring to policy related to any federal, provincial or territorial program in Canada that shapes income security and labour-market engagement for work-disabled individuals. This includes workers' compensation, Canada and Quebec Pension Plan Disability, social assistance for people with disabilities, disability tax credits, Employment Insurance Sickness Benefits, veterans' benefits, various private-sector disability benefit plans, motor vehicle accident insurance, and compensation for victims of crime.
- The centre includes employers in the disability policy system because employers play an important role in shaping opportunities for work-disabled individuals and also have specific obligations to do so under some laws and programs.

### ***Who is funding the research centre?***

- CWRDP is funded by the [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council](#) (SSHRC) through a seven-year, \$2.8-million grant that runs from 2013 to 2020.
- SSHRC is the federal research-funding agency that promotes and supports post-secondary-based research and training in the humanities and social sciences. By focusing on developing talent, generating insights and forging connections across campuses and communities, SSHRC strategically supports world-leading initiatives that reflect a commitment to ensuring a better future for Canada and the world.

### ***Who is running the research centre?***

- CWRDP's funding is being administered by [McMaster University](#) in Hamilton, Ont.
- The Centre's national headquarters are physically located at the [Institute for Work & Health](#) in Toronto.
- There are also regional offices in British Columbia at [Simon Fraser University](#), in Ontario at [York University](#), in Quebec at [Laval University](#) and in Newfoundland and Labrador at [Memorial University](#).

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- The CRWDP is being co-led nationally by [Emile Tompa](#) and [Ellen MacEachen](#), senior scientists at the Institute for Work & Health, and associate professors at McMaster University and the University of Toronto.
- In British Columbia, the centre is being co-led by [Mieke Koehoorn](#), a professor in the School of Population and Public Health at the University of British Columbia, and [John Calvert](#), an associate professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Simon Fraser University.
- In Ontario, the centre is being co-led by [Linn Holness](#), director of the Centre for Research Expertise in Occupational Disease at St. Michael's Hospital, and [Marcia Rioux](#), director of the York Institute for Health Research at York University.
- In Quebec, the centre is being co-led by [Ysabel Provencher](#), an associate professor in the School of Social Work at Laval University, and [Marie-José Durand](#), a professor in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Sherbrooke.
- In Newfoundland and Labrador, the centre is being co-led by [Barb Neis](#), co-director of the SafetyNet Centre for Occupational Health and Safety Research at Memorial University, and [Stephen Bornstein](#), director of the Centre of Applied Health Research at Memorial University.
- CRWDP is like a new 'mini-university' because it brings together academics and partners from across Canada—all dedicated to the issue of work disability policy.
- There are 50 academic researchers based at universities and research institutes across the country.
- There are 46 partner organizations, which include community organizations, organized labour, employers, disability support program providers, and research institutions.
- Our centre's research institution partners include: the [Faculty of Social Sciences](#), [DeGroote School of Business](#), [Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis](#) and the [School of Rehabilitation Science](#) at [McMaster University](#) (the host institution); [Institute for Work & Health](#); [Faculty of Health Sciences](#) at [Simon Fraser University](#); [School of Population and Public Health](#) at [University of British Columbia](#); [Pacific Coast University for Workplace Health Sciences](#); [York Institute for Health Research](#) at [York University](#); [Caledon Institute of Social Policy](#); [Dalla Lana School of Public Health](#) at [University of Toronto](#); [Centre for Research on Inner City Health](#) and the [Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute](#) at [St. Michael's Hospital](#); [Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Rehabilitation and Social Integration](#) (CIRRI) and the [Chair in Occupational Health and Safety Management](#) at [Laval University](#); [Charles LeMoyné Hospital Research Centre](#) at the [University of Sherbrooke](#); [Sainte-Justine University Hospital Research Center](#) at the [University of Montreal](#); and [Safety Net Centre for Occupational Health and Safety Research](#) at [Memorial University](#).

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## Improving Canadian work disability policy to help all people access employment

### BACKGROUND

## At a glance: Canada's current disability support system

February 4, 2014

Canada's work disability support system is made up of numerous programs and policies. These include:

**1. Canada/Quebec Pension Plan Disability (CPP-D or QPP-D):** Treated as the first payer by many of the other programs in the system, CPP-D benefits accounted for nearly 16 per cent of all disability benefit expenditures in 2008-2009. Eligibility is based on a stringent definition of disability: "severe and prolonged disability such that the person is incapable of gainful employment." Eligibility is also subject to minimum contribution requirements.

**2. Employment Insurance Sickness Benefits:** Accounting for just 3.8 per cent of disability benefit spending in 2008-2009, this program provides benefits for up to 15 weeks for periods of temporary disability. To be eligible, workers must accumulate at least 600 insured hours in the previous 52 weeks or since the last claim. Benefits are reduced if recipients qualify for benefits from other sources.

**3. Veterans' benefits for disability:** Veterans or members of the Canadian Armed Forces are eligible for this benefit if a disability can be attributed to exposures arising from service, and the disability is severe. Benefits are reduced if the veteran also receives benefits from a group disability insurance plan. This program accounted for 7.7 per cent of all disability benefit spending in 2008-2009.

**4. Provincial workers' compensation programs:** The oldest social security program in Canada, workers' compensation accounted for 21 per cent of disability benefit spending in 2008-2009. This program provides income benefits for wage losses arising from a disabling disease or injury with a work-related cause. Coverage varies from 70 per cent (in Ontario) to 95 per cent (in Quebec) of all workers. Employers pay the premiums.

**5. Provincial social assistance programs:** All provincial social assistance programs provide benefits to people with disabilities. In most provinces, eligibility is determined by a combination of the duration of the disability and means testing. In Ontario, for example, people who own above a certain amount in assets—cash, vehicles, savings, homes and so on—are not eligible for Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) benefits. If they work, a part of their earnings is deducted from income benefits. Also, income from CPP, EI, workers' compensation and private disability insurance plans are deducted dollar-for-dollar. These programs accounted for 31 per cent of disability benefits spending in 2008-2009.

**6. Employment-based long-term disability plans:** About 55 per cent of Canadian workers are offered a work-based long-term disability (LTD) plan. Premiums may be paid by employees or shouldered by both

## 2 • Background: Canada's current disability support system

employees and employers. Most plans provide for two years of benefits, and longer only in cases where the plan member cannot do any work for which he or she is trained or educated. LTD plans made up about 18 per cent of total disability spending in 2008-2009.

**7. Tax measures:** Accounting for just over one per cent of benefit spending in 2008-2009, federal tax measures include the Disability Tax Credit, which also includes the Working Income Tax Benefit Disability and the Registered Disability Savings Plan. These non-refundable tax credits are used to reduce the amount that people who are eligible owe on federal income tax.

**8. Other disability insurance programs and benefits:** There are other programs and benefits that are not often integrated into studies of work disability policy, such as motor vehicle accident insurance and compensation for victims of crime.

**9. Employers' role:** Employers play an important role in shaping opportunities for work-disabled individuals and have specific obligations under some programs. For example, in workers' compensation, employers must maintain an injured worker's job and participate in a return-to-work process. Under human rights law, employers have a 'duty to accommodate' individuals with disabilities. Some employers may also have return-to-work programs that cover all workers, regardless of the program under which benefits are received.

### References:

John Stapleton and Stephanie Procyk, [A patchwork quilt: Income security for Canadians with disabilities](#), Institute for Work & Health: Toronto, 2010

[Sickness, disability and work: Breaking the barriers - Canada: Opportunities for collaboration](#), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD): Paris, 2010

[Policy and guidelines on disability and the duty to accommodate](#), Ontario Human Rights Commission: Toronto, 2000

[Overview of work reintegration/RTW for employers](#), Workplace Safety and Insurance Board of Ontario: Toronto, 2011

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## Improving Canadian work disability policy to help all people access employment

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## CRWDP national launch event speakers

February 4, 2014

The launch is taking place at **McMaster University** (McMaster Health Forum), in Hamilton, Ontario, at 12:00 noon EST. It is also being launched in real time through video-conferencing at these three centres:

- **Simon Fraser University** (Downtown Campus), Vancouver, British Columbia, at 9:00 a.m. PST
- **Université Laval**, Québec City, Québec, at 12:00 noon EST
- **Memorial University**, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, at 1:30 p.m. NST

Speaking at the launch (with links to their bios) are:

- the [Honourable David C. Onley](#), Lieutenant Governor of Ontario
- the [Honourable Mike Lake](#), MP for Edmonton, Mill Woods, Beaumont in Alberta
- [Mike Bradley](#), Mayor of Sarnia, Ontario
- [Brent Herbert-Copley](#), Vice-President, Research and Research Capacity, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
- [Patrick Deane](#), President, McMaster University
- [Charlotte Yates](#), Dean of Social Sciences, McMaster University
- [Cameron Mustard](#), President, Institute for Work & Health
- [Steve Mantis](#), Past Chair and Current Research Liaison, Ontario Network of Injured Workers Group; Executive Committee Member, Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy
- [Marie Ryan](#), Partner, Goss-Gilroy Inc.; Past Chair, Council of Canadians with Disabilities; Executive Committee Member, Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy
- [Normand Boucher](#), Scientist, Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Rehabilitation and Social Integration; Policy and Legal Studies Theme Lead, Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy
- [Richard Lavigne](#), Director, Confederation of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities in Quebec (COPHAN)
- [Emile Tompa](#), Co-Director, Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy; Senior Scientist, Institute for Work & Health; Associate Professor, McMaster University and University of Toronto
- [Ellen MacEachen](#), Co-Director, Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy; Senior Scientist, Institute for Work & Health; Associate Professor, McMaster University and University of Toronto

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## Improving Canadian work disability policy to help all people access employment

### BACKGROUND

## Quotes on CRWDP from launch speakers and other supporters

February 4, 2014

### Quotes from people scheduled to speak at the launch

Canada needs all of its talents at work to ensure job creation, economic growth and long-term prosperity. I applaud the Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy for taking on the important goal of identifying better policies for retraining and integrating Canadians with disabilities into the workplace.

***The Honourable Mike Lake, Member of Parliament for Edmonton—Mill Woods—Beaumont, Edmonton, Alta.***

Employment for the disabled is a civil right. This exciting new national initiative can and will make a difference for disabled Canadians in opening up job markets, skills and minds. Quality of life for all Canadians is justice not charity, and it's time now to have the fierce urgency to make it happen.

***Mike Bradley, Mayor, Sarnia, Ont.***

SSHRC is very pleased to support research by the CRWDP team and its partners. Their research will help to shape future disabilities studies and policies, and contribute to greater inclusivity for persons with disabilities in society. It is this focus on people, in the past and present, with a view to creating a better future, which defines social sciences and humanities research.

***Brent Herbert-Copley, Vice-President, Research and Research Capacity, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Ottawa, Ont.***

This national initiative will bring together normally separate communities—the workers' compensation community and the disability/social welfare communities—to address a common issue: how the work disability policy system in Canada can better meet the needs of the variety of working-age individuals who turn to it for support.

***Steve Mantis, Past Secretary and Current Research Liaison, Ontario Network for Injured Workers Group, Thunder Bay, Ont.***

Creating greater employment opportunities for persons with disabilities is not only the right thing to do; it makes good economic sense. A win/win opportunity exists and can be realized. However, for this to happen, it must be recognized that a critical element is a comprehensive policy framework that enables

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accommodation of people's disability-related needs and facilitates real and substantive workforce inclusion.

**Marie Ryan, Partner, Goss-Gilroy Inc.; Past Chair, Council of Canadians with Disabilities, St. John's, Nfld.**

Our coordinated and trans-disciplinary applied research effort is a new approach to addressing the complex challenge of work disability policy. We are bringing together academic talent from across the country and working closely with partners to identify a roadmap for the future of work disability policy in Canada.

We have partners integrated into all aspects of this initiative, including its governance, research and knowledge mobilization. A key feature is our "champions group." This is a group of people in positions of authority and leadership to speak up about the relevance of problems and the need for change. Champions are a critical part of the CRWDP.

Our guiding framework for the initiative is human rights. We recognize the entitlement of all people in Canada, including those with disabilities, to have equal access to basic rights and fundamental freedoms, including employment and education. This perspective is a confirmed direction of our federal government.

**Emile Tompa, Senior Scientist, Institute for Work & Health; Associate Professor, McMaster University; Associate Professor, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ont.**

The challenge our current disability support system faces is this: With the changing nature of work and the workforce, there are more and more people with health conditions or impairments who can and want to work, but need some support to do so. Yet some don't qualify for appropriate work reintegration support from any one program and, without it, they are falling into the grey zone of unemployment. They need an income and want to work, but they need help to get there.

In Canada, we have programs in place to help people who are temporarily unemployed or who are permanently disabled. But these are tailored to specific circumstances and are not coordinated with each other. The programs have their own eligibility criteria and different definitions of things like 'disability' and 'unable to work.' It's hard for people to access this system.

Research is important because it helps us to understand how things work as they do and how our system might be improved. But researchers cannot do it alone. We need to work directly with partners to understand conditions on the ground. We need public figures to champion our cause and effort and to help us to bring people together to discussion forums and policy round tables.

**Ellen MacEachen, Senior Scientist, Institute for Work & Health; Associate Professor, McMaster University; Associate Professor, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ont.**

### Quotes from other supporters of CRWDP

CRWDP provides an opportunity for community organizations, decision-makers and researchers from many different disciplines to work together to get a much broader understanding about the many factors that contribute to disability in the Canadian context. The collection and aggregation of multiple sources of data will provide a more complete picture of the challenges and opportunities to prevent and mitigate the negative consequences of disability so that all people can participate in the workforce.

***Marc White, Executive Director, Canadian Institute for the Relief of Pain and Disability (CIRPD), Vancouver, B.C.***

I have spent many years helping persons with disabilities navigate the complexities of Canada's disability programs. Unfortunately, due in large part to discontinuities among the programs, many disabled people have poor employment outcomes. I am confident that the researchers and partners associated with the centre will identify changes in disability policy that will bring major improvements in the wellbeing and outcomes for persons with disabilities.

***Alec Farquhar, Director, Office of the Worker Adviser (OWA), Toronto, Ont.***

There are significant numbers of people who are under and unemployed in Canada or who have precarious relationships to the labour force. It is my expectation that we will be able to create conditions under which people with disabilities, First Nations and aboriginal people, racialized people and women can participate in the labour force.

***Marcia Rioux, Professor, School of Health Policy and Management, York University; Director, York Institute of Health Research, Toronto, Ont.***

Having lost a husband due to a workplace injury in 1988 and having a son with a life-changing, work-based brain injury from 2000, and seeing supports and fair compensation eroded over the past 25 years, I strongly believe that it is imperative to have academic research in conjunction with injured worker and family groups to provide momentum for science-based change to improve outcomes for injured workers in Canada.

***Patricia MacAhonic, Advisor, Canadian Injured Workers Alliance; Executive Director, Ann Davis Transition Society, Chilliwack, B.C.***

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Improving Canadian work disability policy to help all people access employment

## **BACKGROUND**

### **A personal story: Krystal Johnston, 29, Vancouver**

**February 4, 2014**

In the fall of 2010, I moved from Saskatoon to Vancouver, where I worked as an ironworker at a stadium construction site. By January 2011, I started feeling pain, tingling and loss of sensation in my hands and arms. I got hurt pretty quickly, I think from using the big vibration tools that weighed about as much as I weighed. At first I thought I was just tired from working too many hours, but the symptoms just got worse and worse. It was like having pins and needles all up and down the arms. If I reached into my pocket and felt a lighter or a pen, I couldn't tell which was which. I had no feeling in my hands. Here I was, an ironworker who worked in the air, and I couldn't hang on to my tools. Not a good thing, right?

In April 2011, I made a workers' compensation claim with WorkSafeBC but did not qualify for benefits because it couldn't establish that the injury was related to work. Then I got put on light duty, watching cranes all day. I toughed it out for as long as I could, then I took a layoff in December 2011 and went on Employment Insurance (EI). In March 2012, I had surgery done on the first hand. That was when I received Employment Insurance Sickness Benefits.

I went back to work in May, two months after the surgery, which was maybe too soon. I had to use an impact gun at this site. It wasn't as big as the tools I was using at the stadium, but big enough to bother me. I took a second layoff in September and worked on my journeyman's training while waiting for surgery on the other hand in late November 2012. I just did my last exam this past December. I figure if I get the ticket, it might open doors for something at a higher position in the construction world.

But I don't know what to do next. My conditions haven't improved since the surgeries, and my doctor has told me I probably can't do ironwork anymore. Construction was where I was comfortable, and now I'm being forced out of it. And I'm all alone trying to figure it out. I'm really good at building things, but not so good doing research on how to change my entire life around because my nerves are damaged.

I've been off work for a year and a half now, and Vancouver isn't a cheap place to live. I've used up EI and EI Sickness Benefits. I'm currently getting long-term disability benefits (LTD) through my union, and I'm very thankful for that. But that runs out after two years. And it's not enough for me to pay my next month's rent. I've been denied social assistance (because of my LTD), so I don't know if I'll have a home next month.

I'm sure I'll get through this but I'm completely alone. Some days I have so much drive and I'm feeling great. But some days I'm like, "Holy crap. I don't know what to do now." It's very scary.

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Improving Canadian work disability policy to help all people access employment

## **BACKGROUND**

### **Resources for more information on CRWDP**

February 4, 2014

**Website of the Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy:** [www.crwdp.ca](http://www.crwdp.ca)

This is the centre's recently launched website. It includes news and events, research highlights, videos of workers' stories, profiles of participants and partners, publications and more. It will be populated with more information as the centre moves forward.

**Article:** Uyen Vu, [New research centre to examine work disability policy in Canada](#). *At Work*: Institute for Work & Health, Winter 2014.

This article appears in the Winter 2014 issue of *At Work*, the quarterly newsletter of the Institute for Work & Health. The headquarters of the Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy (CRWDP) are physically located at the Institute.

**Newsletter:** [Working Policy: News, views and research from CRWDP](#): Centre for Research on Work Disability Policy, Vol. 1, No. 1, January 2014

This is the first issue of the centre's quarterly newsletter, which includes research highlights and academic, partner, champion and student fellow profiles.

**Social media:** Follow CRWDP on Twitter [@CRWDP](#). Subscribe to CRWDP's [YouTube channel](#).

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