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Created by Volunteer Injured Workers

Donations gratefully accepted  
via e-transfers to  
**oniwgexec@gmail.com**

Winter 2025

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# Newsletter

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## Ontario Network of Injured Workers Groups

Injured Workers Legal Community Clinic (IWC), ONIWG, IWA4J and allies held a 'Rights Don't Retire' media event on November 25, 2025 at Queen's Park.



Sourced from Injured Workers action for Justice (IWA4J)

## Injured Workers Call for End to Discriminatory Age-Based Cut-Offs

Injured workers and advocates across Ontario are raising alarm over the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board's (WSIB) practice of cutting off benefits when a worker turns 65 — even when the work injury permanently ends their ability to earn a livelihood.

According to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act (WSIA), most injured worker's benefits end at age 65 whether that person intended to work longer or not. With Ontarians facing a cost of living crisis working longer than ever before, this age-based cut-off is out of step with reality and disproportionately harms older workers in physically demanding jobs.

[Click link for complete article](#)

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# Historic Rip-off

When the WSIB premium rate for employers lessens, so too does the amount given to injured and ill workers, who the compensation system was historically created to assist, Janet Paterson, writes.

The WSIB is currently so well funded that the Ontario government has chosen to gift employers another \$2 billion rebate, instead of investing the money in improving the workers' compensation system for injured workers. Janet Paterson, President of the Ontario Network of Injured Workers' Groups, published an important opinion piece in the Hamilton Spectator on November 25, 2025.

She writes about how this payout is just another in a series of massive rebates to employers in the last year, coupled with premium rates having been cut to their lowest rate in more than 20 years. Meanwhile, the WSIB's decision-making appears deeply flawed. In the latter half of 2022, the independent appeals tribunal overturned or partially overturned 79 per cent of WSIB decisions it reviewed — a staggering indicator of systemic failure with real consequences for workers and their families. 2023 and 2024 stats show little changes to WSIB denial rates. Ontarians cannot grow numb to this government's broader dismantling of public institutions. Janet urges renewed attention and solidarity with injured and ill workers who are increasingly under attack.

Read the full text of the article: <https://marketplace.thespec.com/sign-in>

or <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Rr7hLcyE6EUAkDf4KhokDBkCdssWGedN/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=115597970512430062951&rtpof=true&sd=true>

**Injured workers are under attack. Will you acknowledge us?**

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## Event News

Acknowledge Injured Workers and join us on **December 8th** in Toronto at the Ministry of Labour (MOL) or in Thunder Bay at MPP Lise Vaugeois's office. Every year ONIWG and allies rally to give injured and ill workers a voice. All are invited to join the rally and attend for snacks.



THUNDER BAY & DISTRICT  
INJURED WORKERS SUPPORT GROUP

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### Billion Dollar Lottery

Are you getting your share of the \$6 B  
give away at WSIB?

The WSIB annually leaves 10,000  
workers in poverty

Join the Thunder Bay & District Injured  
Workers Support Group for a  
Rally to Fight Back.

WHEN: 11:00 AM on Monday, December 8th

WHERE: MPP Lise Vaugeois's Office,  
272 Park Street, Thunder Bay

You can contact us at: (807) 622-8897 or by email at:  
tbiwsg@gmail.com

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## Feeling Lonely?

ONIWG is hosting a Zoom meeting for injured and ill workers to attend and chat about the issues you are currently facing. This is going to be held on **Sunday January 18<sup>th</sup> at 3pm**, please reach out to **oniwgexec@gmail.com** to request a zoom link.

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## Volunteer Trustees Needed

Are you good with numbers? Do you want to support community? Do you have a few hours a month to spare? If so, contact ONIWG at **oniwgexec@gmail.com** to become a trustee!