

THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

November 14, 2025 (via Zoom)

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Roll call

Position	First Name	Last Name	Present?	Absent?
Chairperson	Ian	Brown	1	
Chair-Elect	Spencer	Aldrich	1	
Past Chair	Martin	Fisher	1	
Treasurer	Andrea	Knight	1	
Secretary	Elyse	Waters	1	
Member-at-large #1	Christo	de Villiers	1	
Member-at-large #2	Derrick	Louie	1	
Member-at-large #3	John	Young	1	
Member-at-large #4	Lourdes	Sanchez Marte		1
Member-at-large #5	Martie	McQuain	1	
Member-at-large #6	Van	Quan	1	
Member-at-large #7	Ned	Arenberg		1
Member-at-large #8	Melissa	Douglas	1	
Member-at-large #9	Nicholas	Cordes	1	
Member-at-large #10	Heidi	Havercroft	1	
Member-at-large #11	Charisse	Dickson		1

II. MINUTES

- Approve minutes (October 10, 2025)

Motion to approve. No corrections/objections. Minutes approved unanimously.

III. CHAIR REPORT (Ian)

- 10/31 House of Delegates meeting. Nothing significant to note.
- 12/1 deadline to complete annual report to OSB. Email Ian with specifics to cover, including subcommittees.

IV. TREASURER REPORT (Andrea)

- Picked up 2 new paying members. Income/expenses related to bench bar.

- **\$21,996 current balance**
- Budget: \$2.5k spend down for Salishan.
- End of Oct. – committee expense in flux (going forward committee); might have Spencer \$\$ paid out for bench bar.
- Budget based on subcommittee information.
- Added outreach programs for 2026 – going forward line item to track (\$1k)
 - Nick: agrees this is an appropriate line item. Important for the committee to have their own budget to avoid multiple requests to EC. Committee is doing well and active in getting events set up.
 - Andrea: membership with section has increased
 - Nick: currently projected to have surplus in budget. Either ask for waiver (might not want to request one for next year) or pay some \$\$ into Salishan.
 - Tria: section can keep the surplus funds; per member fee charges will be triggered if we are above.
 - Threshold = \$19k to carryover
 - Too late to request a waiver. Chose to pay it down.
 - Ian: charitable contributions to spend down excess budget? Or put \$\$ toward Salishan 2026?
 - Spencer has Qs about understanding budget.
 - Andrea: need to spend down to \$19k-ish. Can have two times our bar dues. A few thousand dollars to spend down before year end.
 - Spencer: soliciting sponsorships? Vendors? Is there an excess for Salishan funds?
 - Nick: surplus comes from donations of WC community. Purpose to get us back in fiscal health and expand the section. Wants to put \$\$ back into the WC section rather than charitable contributions. Create a surplus for next year to help with other events like bench bar.
 - Didn't have \$\$ to give dating back to 2022
 - Donations are not just for Salishan. We need to grow the section to keep our budget afloat.
 - Wants to protect Salishan and bench bar events.
 - Surplus is because of donations from WC community both this year and last year.
 - Van: important for section to donate to charitable contributions, not necessarily to “pad” section funds. Doesn't see the issue as mutually exclusive.
 - Going forward committee is really beneficial for our section.
 - Andrea: added back contribution line item for charitable contributions for 2026. \$1.5k allocated on budget.
 - Extra cushion – higher than anticipated Salishan revenue.
 - Ian: fees and revenue can fluctuate re: Salishan and bench bar.
 - Spencer: going forward committee could utilize additional funds as putting \$\$ back into our section. Keep investment of Salishan donations in our section.
 - Melissa: can we offset some of the costs of being a section member? Note to donators re: majority of \$\$ being kept by the

section and then the remainder/surplus can be used for other purposes.

- Andrea: section member dues waived for 1-2 years. Section still pays assessment to the bar.
- Van: likes idea of budgeting more for going forward committee. Use funds to help newer attorneys.
- Ian: line item of \$1.5k for charitable donations. Always have the option of pulling it back if we have financial issues. 3% budgeted for charitable donations at the end of the year disclose for sponsors.

\$2.5k to Salishan or charitable contributions vote – Ian motion to set \$2.5k toward Salishan for 2026. Nick seconded. “A” Budget. No objections. Budget passes.

Ian motion to approve \$500 for going forward prizes. Authorized to spend up to that amount. Approved. No objections.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Access to Justice (Christo)
 - Access to Justice subcommittee has identified a possible rule request to direct to the Workers’ Compensation Division. This proposal has support from the whole subcommittee, balanced between both defense and claimants’ representatives.

Date of request:

December 1, 2025

Name and contact information:

Kevin Anderson, kanderson@sbhlegal.com, 503-595-2130
c/o Access to Justice Subcommittee

Brief summary of issue:

Our sub-committee identified OAR 436-015-0001 as a potential barrier to workers accessing medical care for their claim, specifically the 14-day limit on temporary disability benefits may not be a sufficient amount of time for a worker to identify an MCO provider and be seen by the provider.

If this issue is related to an existing rule, which rule is it?

OAR 436-015-0001

What outcome would you like to see?

Our committee identified a possible solutions including extending the 14-day time frame to a longer period. The information we received from MCOs indicate they were able to see claimant's within 6 to 13 business days, but we did not get a confirmation of calendar days. Other MCOs indicated it was taking up to 22 days. Some of the responses also indicated enrollments at the start of the claim was faster than enrollment mid-claim. It may be helpful for the WCD to ask for MCO to confirm this data.

Another possible solution was to provide an email of the MCO enrollment notice, opposed to a mailing, would meet the insurer's obligation in sending the notice. Allowing for email would avoid

- Bench/Bar (Spencer)

Derrick will be new chair of this committee.

- Going Forward (Spencer)
 - Spencer: proposed budget of \$1k. Also looking at \$500 for book prizes – would spend this year. May request more books if they're helpful to newer attorneys.
 - Going forward done for 2025 outside of \$500 for book purchase.
 - Heidi: what is the marketing purpose for obtaining these books that are freely accessible?
 - What is the merit of physical copy/paper copy?
 - Is new generation interested in a booklet?
 - Is there something else we can give as prizes?
 - Melissa: Reduced bench bar
 - Not for marketing or sales. Encouragement for newer attorneys to engage and participate in section.
 - Spencer: budget for prizes included in 2026 budget.
 - Nick: what kinds of relevant prizes could we offer that are at least sort of work comp related. Defer to committee re: prizes selected.
- Professionalism Award (Martin)

Still liaison for committee. Kicks off in February 2026.

- Salishan (Christo)

Nothing new to report.

- Nominations (Martin)
 - Proposal for new members + returning members for EC.

The nominations committee, now complete with the addition of judge Wren, has the following nominations to put forth:

Current members, returning for another term as members at large:

Van Quan – WCB

Derrick Louie – Claimant

Lourdes Sanchez – Claimant

Andrea Night – Claimant (Treasurer, but would not be mad if someone else relieved her of that duty)

Spencer Aldrich – Claimant (Chairperson)

Elyse Waters – Defense (Chair-Elect)

New members:

Thom Nash – Defense (SAIF)

Katerina Wolfe – Defense (SBH)

This gives us 12 voting members – five claimant, four defense, three neutrals.

We still need one more defense, and at least one if not two neutrals (WCB).

We also need a neutral to serve as secretary for 2026.

- Current members – Ian motion to approve. Spencer seconded. No objections. Approved.
- Do we still need another claimant member? One more defense, one more neutral to get 5 members each for claimant/defense/neutral.
- Need neutral for secretary. Ideally to move up into chair role.
- New treasurer?
 - Mentorship by Andrea for new person.
- Martin to reach out to Christo. Christo is otherwise termed out. But can come back as secretary.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VI. OLD BUSINESS

VII. NEXT MEETING

- December 12, 2025 @ noon, via Zoom

Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.