# WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEAL TRIBUNAL (WCAT) QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY FOR THE PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

WCAT's mandate is to decide appeals brought by workers and employers from decisions of the Workers' Compensation Board (the Board), which operates as WorkSafeBC. WCAT decides compensation, assessment, and prevention appeals from decisions of the Review Division of the Board. We also decide direct appeals from Board decisions regarding compensation claim reopenings by application and discriminatory actions complaints. In addition, we decide direct applications for certificates to the Court.

As of September 30, 2011, our total active inventory was 2,983 appeals. The vast majority of appeals are compensation appeals.

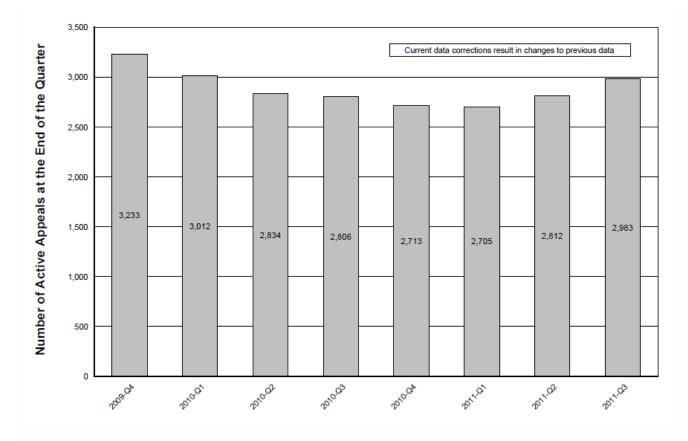
During the third quarter of 2011, we made decisions on the merits of 826 appeals and made summary decisions on a further 230 appeals that were rejected, dismissed, withdrawn, or suspended. An appeal may raise numerous issues and WCAT may allow, allow in part, or deny the appeal on each issue. During the quarter, we decided 1,221 issues.

When WCAT makes a decision on the merits of an appeal, the decision under appeal may be varied, confirmed, or cancelled by WCAT. "Vary" means that WCAT varied the previous decision in whole or in part. Accordingly, whether WCAT has fully granted the remedies requested by the appellant on all issues arising under the appeal or merely changed a minor aspect of the previous decision, the decision is considered to have been "varied". "Confirm" means that WCAT agreed with all aspects of the previous decision. "Cancel" means that WCAT set aside the previous decision without a new or changed decision being provided in its place.

During the quarter, WCAT varied 41% of the decisions under appeal and confirmed 59%. In deciding the issues arising out of those appeals, WCAT allowed the appeals on 30% of the issues, allowed them in part on 5%, and denied them on 65%.

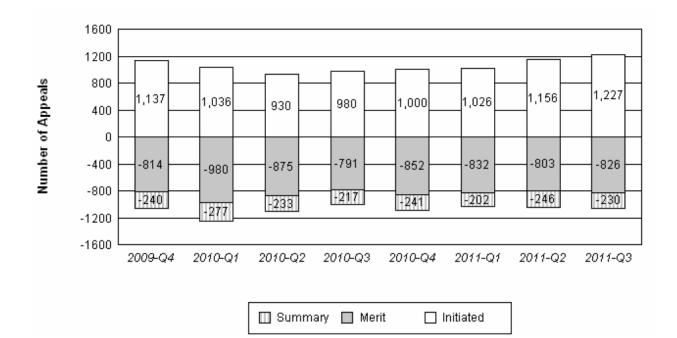
Attached are graphs and tables that contain further statistical information.

Jill Callan, Chair



# Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal Number of Active Appeals in Inventory

**INTAKE and OUTPUT** 



# Outcome 2011-Q3 Last 12 Months Confirmed 58.8% 56.9% Varied 41.2% 43.0% Cancelled 0.0% 0.1% Total 100.0% 100.0%

### 1. OUTCOMES of MERIT DECISIONS:

## 2. OUTCOMES of ISSUES:

Outcome	2011-Q3	Last 12 Months
Denied	64.9%	62.6%
Allowed	29.9%	31.6%
Allowed in Part	5.2%	5.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

### 3. REASONS for ISSUE OUTCOMES:

Outcome	2011-Q3	Last 12 Months
Denied	64.9%	62.6%
Error in Law	0.7%	1.1%
Error in Policy	0.6%	0.9%
Reweigh Existing Evidence	6.9%	6.1%
Reweigh with New Evidence	26.9%	29.3%
Total	100.0%	100.0%