WCAT Workers' Compensation
Appeal Tribunal

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WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEAL TRIBUNAL (WCAT) QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY FOR THE PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2018

WCAT's mandate is to decide appeals brought by workers and employers from decisions of the Workers' Compensation Board, operating as WorkSafeBC (the Board). 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 discriminatory action complaints, and compensation claim reopenings by application, as well as applications for certificates to the Court.

As of March 31, 2018, our total active inventory was 2,460 appeals. The vast majority of appeals are compensation appeals.
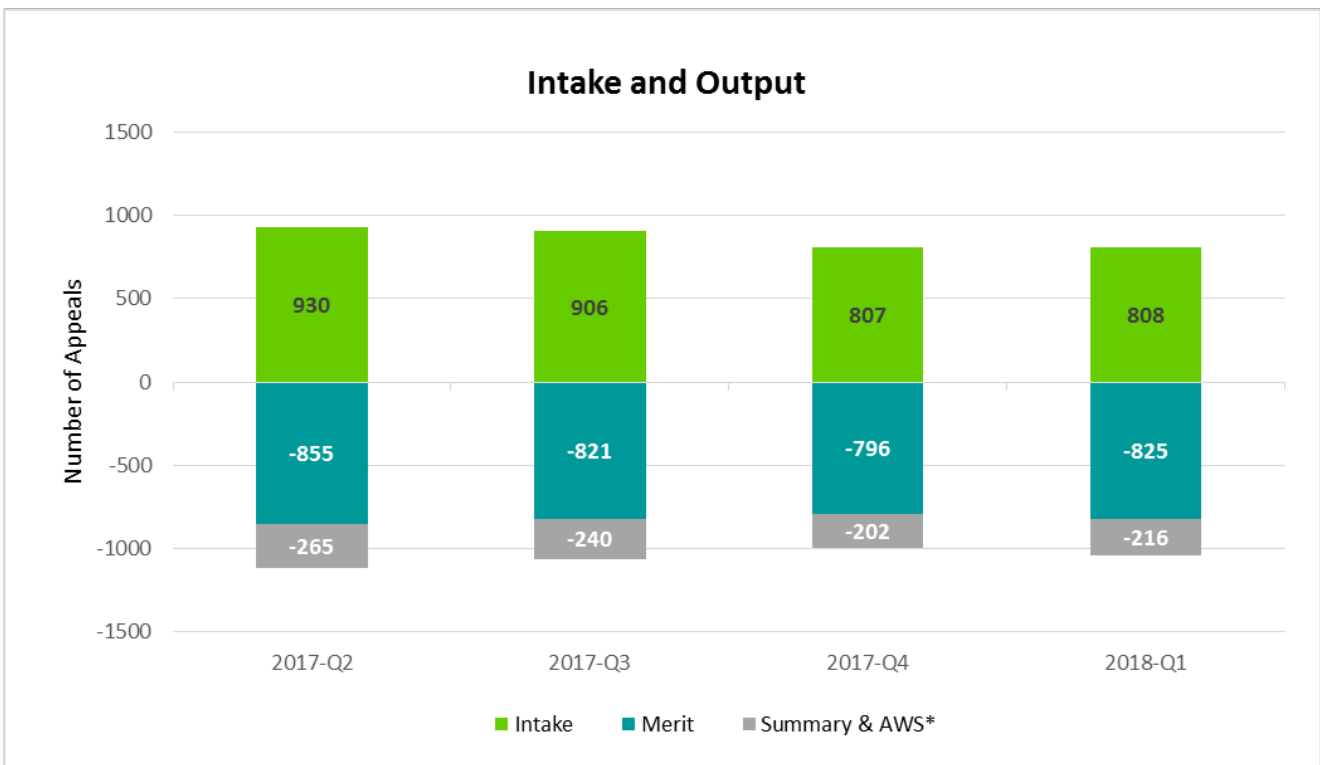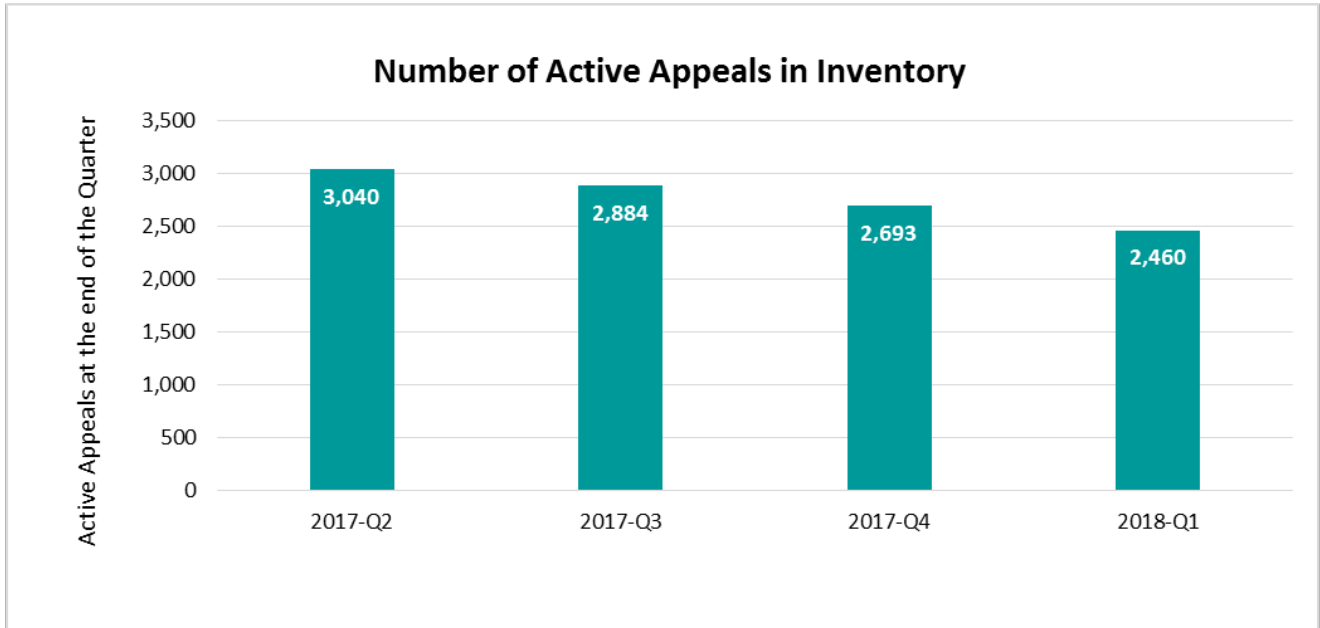
During the first quarter of 2018, we made decisions on the merits of 808 appeals and made summary decisions on a further 216 appeals that were rejected, dismissed, withdrawn, or suspended. An appeal may raise numerous issues and WCAT may allow, allow in part, or deny the appeal on each issue. During the first quarter, we decided 1,106 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 36% of the decisions under appeal, confirmed 63%, and cancelled 1%. In deciding individual issues raised within decisions under appeal, WCAT allowed the appeal on 25% of the issues, allowed the appeal in part on 7.5% of the issues, and denied the appeal on 67.5% of the issues.

Andrew Pendray
Chair

Number of Active Appeals in Inventory

Active Appeals at the end of the Quarter

Quarter	Value
2017-Q2	3,040
2017-Q3	2,884
2017-Q4	2,693
2018-Q1	2,460

Intake and Output

Number of Appeals

Quarter	Intake	Merit	Summary & AWS*
2017-Q2	930	-855	-265
2017-Q3	906	-821	-240
2017-Q4	807	-796	-202
2018-Q1	808	-825	-216

■ Intake   ■ Merit   ■ Summary & AWS*

*Allowed, Withdrawn, Suspended