

Decision of the Chair, Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal

Number: 7
Date: December 3, 2004
Subject: Manual of Rules of Practice and Procedure

1. Whereas under section 234 of the *Workers Compensation Act (WCA)* the chair is responsible for the general operation of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal ("WCAT").
2. And whereas the chair's authority includes responsibility, among other things, for:
 - establishing any forms, practices and procedures required for the efficient and cost effective conduct of appeals to WCAT;
 - making accessible to the public any forms, practices and procedures established by the chair;
 - establishing administrative practices and procedures for the effective operation of WCAT;
 - providing for public access to WCAT decisions in a manner that protects the privacy of the parties to the proceedings; and,
 - establishing a code of conduct, including conflict of interest provisions, that governs the conduct of the members, officers, employees and contractors of WCAT.
3. And whereas under section 11 of the *Administrative Tribunals Act (ATA)* WCAT has the power to control its own processes and may make rules respecting practice and procedure to facilitate the just and timely resolution of the matters before it;
4. And whereas under section 13 of the ATA WCAT may issue practice directives consistent with the ATA, the WCA, their regulations and any rules of practice and procedure made by WCAT;
5. And whereas the chair's authority under section 43 of Part 2 of the *Workers Compensation Amendment Act (No. 2), 2002 (Bill 63)*, includes responsibility for establishing rules, forms, practices and procedures for the efficient and cost effective conduct of proceedings before WCAT under the transitional provisions contained in Part 2 of Bill 63.

6. Pursuant to the chair's authority, the attached *Manual of Rules of Practice and Procedure* (MRPP) dated December 3, 2004, is approved as an amendment and replacement of the MRPP effective December 3, 2004.
7. These rules of practice and procedure remain in effect until their amendment, replacement or revocation by the chair.

Jill Callan
Chair, Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal

Signed at Richmond, British Columbia, as of December 3, 2004.