



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, 2007**

WCAT commenced operations on March 3, 2003. Our mandate is to decide appeals brought by workers and employers from decisions of the Workers' Compensation Board, operating as WorkSafeBC (the Board). WCAT receives compensation, assessment, and prevention appeals from decisions of the Review Division of the Board. We also receive direct appeals from Board decisions regarding compensation claim reopenings by application, discriminatory action complaints, and applications for certificates to the Court.

As of March 31, 2007, our total active inventory was 3,894 appeals. This represents a reduction of 8.6% from the active inventory at the end of the first quarter of 2006.

During the first quarter of 2007, we decided 1,108 appeals on their merits and made summary decisions on a further 428 appeals that were rejected, dismissed, withdrawn, or suspended. During the quarter, WCAT confirmed the decision of the Board or the previous decision-maker in 61% of the cases, and varied or cancelled these decisions in whole or in part in 39% of the cases.

In the first quarter of 2007, our intake amounted to 1,446 appeals. Intake volume is consistent with the 1,450 new appeals received in the fourth quarter of 2006, and down 8% from the 1,576 new appeals we received in the first quarter of 2006.

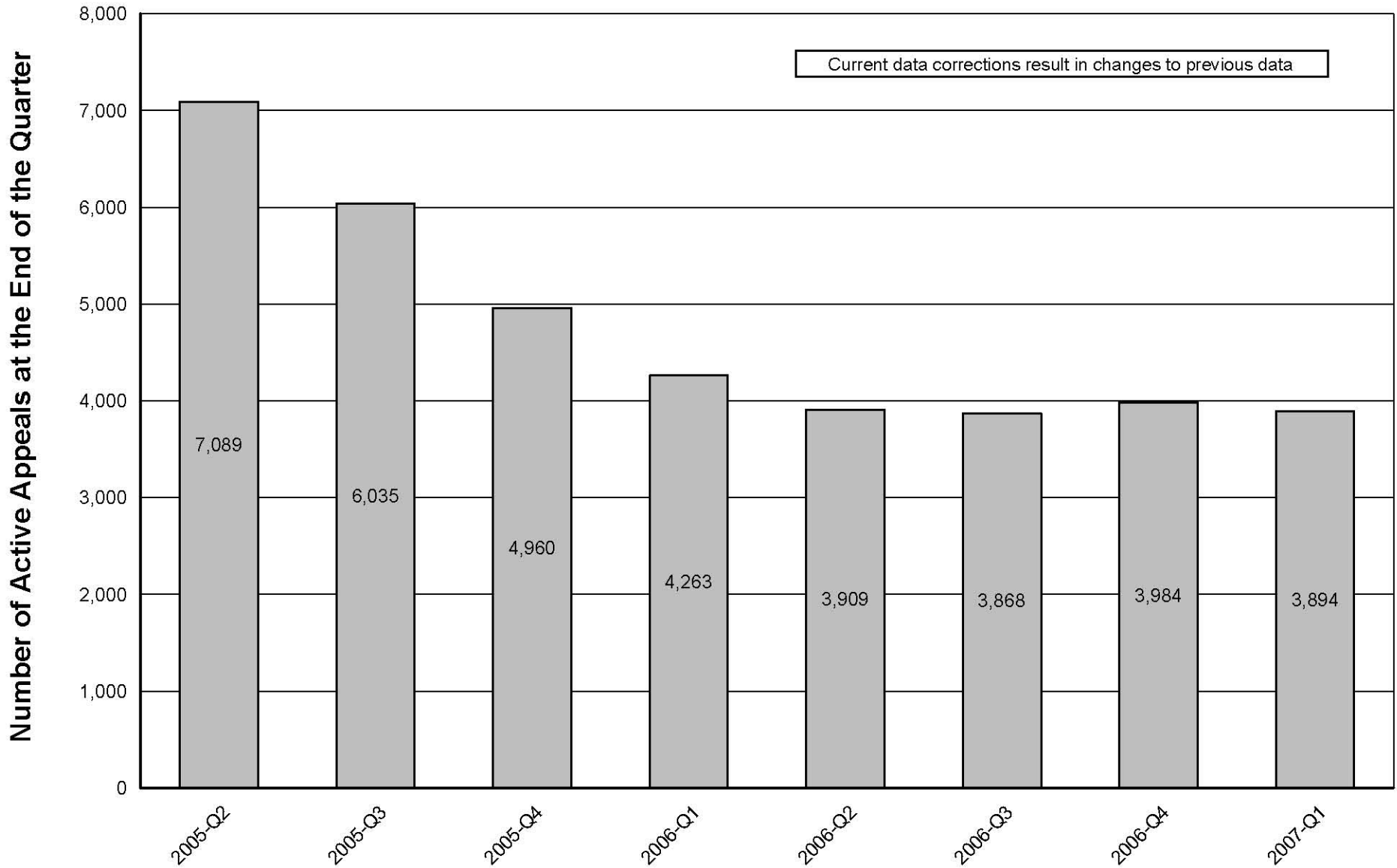
Our intake of new appeals from the Review Division appears to be stabilizing at approximately 5,800 per year. The vast majority of new appeals continue to be related to compensation matters.

Attached are graphs and tables that contain further details on WCAT's activities.

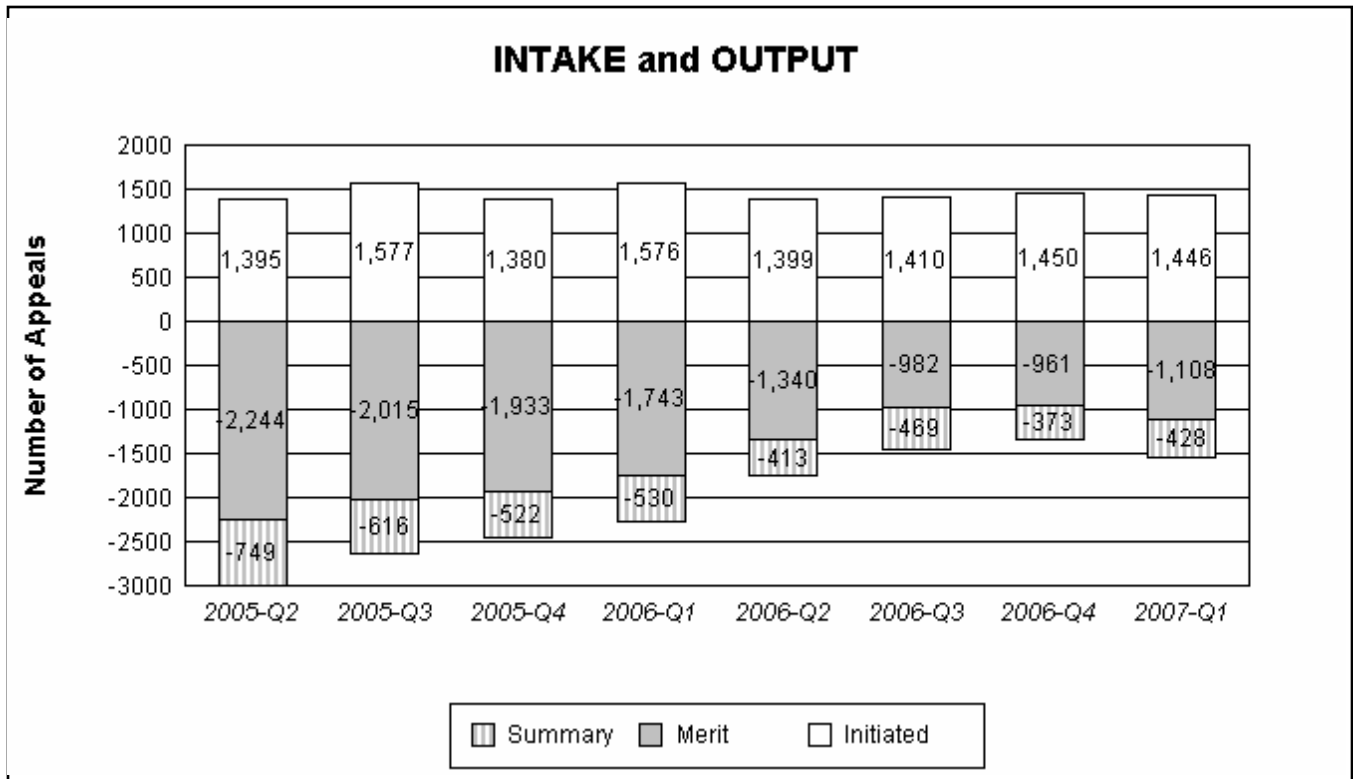
Jill Callan
Chair

Attachment

Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal Number of Active Appeals In Inventory



A. SUMMARY STATISTICS - ALL APPEALS



1. OUTCOMES of MERIT DECISIONS:

Outcome	2007-Q1	Last 12 Months
Confirm	61.3%	63.7%
Vary	38.7%	36.3%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

2. OUTCOMES of ISSUES:

Outcome	2007-Q1	Last 12 Months
Denied	66.0%	67.4%
Allowed	26.2%	24.8%
Allowed in Part	7.8%	7.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

3. REASONS for ISSUE OUTCOMES:

Outcome	2007-Q1	Last 12 Months
Denied	66.0%	67.4%
Error in Law	2.4%	1.5%
Error in Policy	1.1%	1.1%
Reweigh Existing Evidence	7.4%	7.8%
Reweigh with New Evidence	23.1%	22.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%