

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEAL TRIBUNAL (WCAT)
QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

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 December 31, 2017, our total active inventory was 2,695 appeals. The vast majority of appeals are compensation appeals.

During the fourth quarter of 2017, we made decisions on the merits of 796 appeals and made summary decisions on a further 202 appeals that were rejected, dismissed, withdrawn, or suspended.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 fourth quarter, we decided 1,044 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 confirmed 60% of the decisions under appeal, varied 38% and cancelled 2%. In deciding individual issues raised within decisions under appeal, WCAT denied the appeal on 66% of the issues, allowed the appeal on 25% of the issues, and allowed the appeal in part on 9% of the issues.

Andrew Pendray
Chair

WCAT – Quarterly Report to the Community
for the period ended December 31, 2017

