



June 12, 2020 – via email

Lori Guiton
Director, Policy, Regulation & Research Division
WorkSafeBC

Re: Addition of COVID-19 to Schedule 1 of the Workers Compensation Act

Dear Ms. Guiton,

I write today on behalf of 18,000 members of the Public Service Alliance of Canada living in British Columbia to affirm the Public Service Alliance of Canada's support for the BC Federation of Labour's submission on the addition of COVID-19 to Schedule 1 of the Workers Compensation Act.

Some members of our union work in close proximity to the public and other workers, most notably at border crossings and other frontline public service workplaces where the potential for coming into contact with the virus remains high.

PSAC members also work at federally regulated meat processing facilities and federal corrections institutions, where some of them have already potentially been exposed to the COVID-19 virus – for example at at United Poultry and Mission Institution.

Federal government workers who come down with the virus and file a WCB claim should not have to jump through unnecessary hoops to prove their illness was work-related.

PSAC encourages the WCB Board of Directors to seriously consider the BC Fed's submission and revise Schedule 1 of the Workers Compensation Act to include COVID-19 and potential future infectious diseases as presumptive work-related disease, in support of healthier and safer workplaces and work activities, and fair and equitable compensation for all workers.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jamey Mills', is written over a faint, light-colored background.

Jamey Mills
Regional Executive Vice President
Public Service Alliance of Canada, BC Region